

## **PEER REVIEW FILE**

### **Reviewers' comments:**

#### **Reviewer #1 (Remarks to the Author):**

In this manuscript, the authors describe the synthesis and application of a novel trifunctional crosslinker, HATRIC (clever name, btw), which can be used to identify the cell-surface receptor of orphan ligands. This work builds on their previous work describing a similar crosslinker, TRICEPS. HATRIC has several advantages over TRICEPS including the ability to identify a wider selection of receptors since the HATRIC technology does not rely exclusively on the identification of N-glycopeptides. The authors also describe the use of HATRIC at physiological pH, with addition of a catalyst, compared to their published work with TRICEPS which was performed at pH 6.5. A nice set of applications is shown – including an interesting small molecule application with folate and an application to Influenza A virus.

Receptor identification of orphan ligands remains a challenging area and advancements in this area would be of interest to many bio-researchers. The HATRIC crosslinker itself is quite similar to the TRICEPS reagent previously described – the major functional difference being the replacement of the biotin group for an azide which would allow purification on an affinity resin, without additional protein contamination from streptavidin. HATRIC also has a different protecting group on the hydrazide functional group than TRICEPS, though the authors do not mention whether this has any functional consequences, or was simply a choice made for ease-of-synthesis or other considerations. Several of the major advantages of HATRIC that are highlighted in the manuscript by the authors have been previously described in work on the ASB crosslinker (reference 4 in this manuscript) – the ASB procedure as described also allows identification based on tryptic peptides from the entire protein, rather than focusing on the N-glycopeptides. Although not discussed in detail, the ASB procedure described also appears to use a catalyst and ligand binding is at pH 8.0. Since these appear to be the major advantages cited by the authors for HATRIC, the novelty aspect of HATRIC over TRICEPS may be lessened. There would be definite advantages of HATRIC over ASB – including the simplified ligand labelling and the enrichment using alkyne-beads rather than streptavidin beads. The authors have not described the previous work on ASB in this manuscript, nor compared it to HATRIC.

The manuscript is well-written and clearly presented.

Scientifically and statistically the work presented in this manuscript appears to be generally solid and interesting. However, some details are lacking and the discussion/interpretation of the

experiments and methods is quite limited, perhaps due to space constraints (?).

Specific comments:

1. The description of HATRIC-based ligand-receptor capture in the Materials and Methods section indicates that ligands were incubated with cells at pH 6.5 and does not mention use of a catalyst. This is in direct contradiction to what is discussed in the body of the paper.
2. Are peptides derived from the ligand itself an issue in this method? Would the presence of relatively large amounts of ligand peptides serve to limit loading on the mass spectrometer? If so, this should be mentioned and discussed openly in the manuscript.
3. It appears that the authors have filtered out all proteins that were not on their list of cell surface proteins. Why have they chosen to do this? When this step is not taken, do they find that intracellular proteins are differentially expressed? This filtering step should be mentioned openly in the body of the manuscript and discussed.
4. The implied assertion that HATRIC enables identification of ligands from less cells than TRICEPS is not strongly supported. Both TFR1 and EGFR, that were used in the 1 million cell experiment, are very highly abundant cell surface proteins in MDA-231 cells – is there any data to suggest that the TRICEPS method would not work with 1 million MDA-231 cells with these ligands?
5. If possible, it would be informative to show data for the other catalysts that were tested, so there is more information on why 5-MA was selected. “Evaluation of a number of aniline derivatives led to the identification of 5-MA...”
6. Interpretation of the alternative candidate EGF receptors needs to be handled with some caution. Is there any evidence that some of these ‘candidate receptors’ truly bind to EGF? Is it possible that these proteins may simply be co-localized on the cell surface with the true receptor, leading to enriched proximity-based crosslinking via HATRIC? As written, some biologists may mistakenly take the proteins in Supp Table 1 as ‘proven’ EGF receptors.
7. For the viral work, an interesting follow-on functional study is shown. For this work, the authors should show the level of depletion achieved by the siRNAs for each of these targets. For interpretation of this data, it is important for the reader to know if all of the candidate receptors were successfully depleted and, if so, by how much?
8. Viral mediated entry is a very complicated cellular process, utilizing a wide variety of physiological pathways. I wonder if 21 randomly selected reasonably high abundance cell-surface expressed proteins were chosen for this experiment, would the ‘hit rate’ would be lower than what was seen here? So many proteins would affect one aspect or another of viral entry...

Minor comments:

1. The information provided on the MS results is minimal. While it is great that the MS raw files have been made available, some minimal information should be provided in the manuscript/supplementary info. For example, no peptide-level results are shown or provided. At a minimum, the number of unique peptides identified/quantified for each protein should be

provided in the manuscript. Ideally, some information on the quantitative variability seen between different peptides from the same protein should also be provided.

2. More details on the statistical methods used would be helpful. How were protein-level p-values determined? How was quantitative data from individual peptides combined? How were the different technical replicates used for this calculation? What modules from MSstats were used?

3. Methods section: pH required for digestion buffer description.

4. The main body text describing the 1 million cell experiment should mention that this was in MDA-231 cells.

### **Reviewer #2 (Remarks to the Author):**

The manuscript by Sobotzki et al. describes a novel technique to fish for cellular receptors for a variety of ligands, including proteins, small molecules and viruses. The authors developed a trifunctional organic compound, which can covalently link proteinaceous ligands and through a second reactive group covalently link receptor molecules after incubation of the compound-ligand molecule with target cells. Finally a third reactive group allows the purification of putative receptor-ligand-compound complexes by click chemistry. Purified proteins are quantified by LC-MS/MS analysis using standard protocols and compared to control conditions, in which receptor binding of the compound labeled ligand is competed for with an excess of unlabeled ligand or the compound is rendered inactive by glycine quenching. The authors perform four proof-of-principle experiments. First they use the method to confirm epidermal growth factor (EGF) binding to EGF receptor (EGFR). Second, they determine the experimental threshold using transferrin binding to its cognate receptor. Third, the authors demonstrate applicability to the small organic ligand folate. Lastly, they perform an experiment with influenza A virus bound to human lung epithelial cells. While the compound synthesis and the first three proof-of-principle experiments are well designed and controlled, the experiments on influenza virus require some attention. Moreover I recommend a thorough discussion of the discrepancy between the identified IAV attachment factors and previously described host factors (multiple RNAi screens). Also the false positive rate should be discussed as detailed below. Overall, the manuscript is however very well written and the description of methods is clear to non-expert readers. Statistical analysis of MS data is sound. Once the points below are addressed, I favor publication of this description of an exciting and promising new technology, which is clearly of interest to various fields of biology.

Major comments:

1. Fig. 2e. Why was insulin used as control ligand? While the first three experiments were well

controlled, this control seems random. New datasets with compound-free virus competition or quenched virus would seem better controls.

2. Fig. 2e. Compound labeling of viruses can strongly affect infectivity. The authors should perform control experiments, in which they compare titers of virus before and after labeling. Moreover the effect of labeling on the specific infectivity (infectious particle / genome copy number) should be measured.

3. Fig. 2e. Compound labeling of small enveloped viruses such as influenza A virus may affect its entry route. The authors should experimentally demonstrate that the entry pathway into A549 cells is not altered after compound labeling of the virus particles using inhibitory compounds and/or imaging techniques.

4. Fig. 2 and lines 316-331: The authors should explain the filtering for cell surface molecules in the main manuscript, not only in the methods. They should disclaim, which fraction of the identified proteins was cell surface associated according to e.g. GO annotation.

5. Fig. 2e. Why was a nuclear pore protein (NUP210) identified despite the surfaceome filtering? What is the leakiness of the method towards cytoplasmic or nuclear proteins?

6. Line 177: Multiple RNA interference (RNAi) screens on influenza have been published, with some overlap. It is recommended that the authors discuss in more detail why on the one hand the published RNAi hits were not discovered in their HATRIC experiment and on the other hand, why their MS hits were vice versa not previously identified in any of the influenza host factor searches.

7. A differentiated discussion on the limitations of the technology is missing. Can any small ligand be linked to the HATRIC compound without affecting receptor affinity? What are the requirements of organic compounds to be successfully fused to HATRIC by synthesis?

8. The full MS datasets should be disclosed in supplementary tables and deposited in public online repositories such as the EMBL/EBI IntAct database. In particular for the influenza A virus experiment.

#### Minor comments:

1. Full protein names are not mentioned. Please write out the full names at first mentioning of a protein abbreviation, such as FOLR1.

2. Supplementary table 3: The human surfaceome should be presented with separate columns for gene name, protein name and Uniprot accession number for easier accessibility.

3. Fig. 2e,f. The gene/protein names do not match between Fig. 2e, Fig. 2f, Tab. S2 and Tab S4. If the authors decide to use protein names in Fig. 2e and gene names in Fig. 2f, it is advisable to include both – protein names and gene names – in Tab S2 and S4 to allow the reader to match the datasets.

4. Certain proteins, which were silenced (Fig. 2f), are not included in Tab. S2 or annotated differently. Examples are SLC19A1, NUP210, ABCC4.

### **Reviewer #3 (Remarks to the Author):**

In the manuscript from Sobotzki et al., the authors demonstrate their development of next-generation LRC method. Having been the leading developers of the first-generation reagents, TRICEPS-LRC, the Wollscheid laboratory is well-suited to evolve this useful technology for improved coverage, applicability, and sensitivity. The updated methodology, termed HATRIC, still employs the key step of receptor sugar alcohol to aldehyde periodate oxidation, and subsequent coupling to the hydrazine-containing probe. However, the authors optimized the periodate oxidation to achieve high efficiency at neutral pH. In addition, the authors introduced Click chemistry in the HATRIC reagent. These optimizations directly contribute to the improved sensitivity of the approach, with a minimum requirement of between 1 -2 orders of magnitude less cellular material. The authors experimentally demonstrated the results of HATRIC-LRC with 1 million cells, though as mentioned in the comments below, the explanation of this experiment in the manuscript could be improved. The work nicely demonstrates the broad application of the method to a range of ligands, including the small molecule folate, the polypeptide EGF, and the intact virus, influenza A. The authors convincingly demonstrated that their technology could identify biologically relevant cell surface receptors of IAV by validation with siRNA knockdown of candidate IAV cell surface receptors during infection. However, as mentioned in the main comments section, the authors did not fully discuss why none of the known IAV receptors were identified.

Overall, this is a strong methodological study with significant application to biomedical and pharmaceutical research, particularly in contributing to the characterization of orphan receptors. The authors do have a few outstanding and several minor points to address; however, if these can be addressed, I would recommend the manuscript for publication.

#### **Main Points**

1. A general main point is the lack of discussion related to novel identified candidates or lack of identification for known candidates in the case of IAV. For instance, in addition to identifying the known receptors for the EGF and folate ligands, the authors found several other putative candidates, which the authors did not discuss. What percent were known or predicted cell surface or secreted proteins? In addition, for the IAV experiments, the authors state: " We identified 24 virus-interacting candidates (Fig. 2e, Supplementary Table 2)." Before discussing the siRNA results, the authors should expand on their statement. Later in the manuscript, the authors mention that none have been previously implicated. However, it might be appropriate for the authors to briefly discuss here, (1) that these targets didn't include the known receptors, (2) how many known receptor targets are there for IAV, (3) their thoughts on why HATRIC did not capture them?

2. Did the authors evaluate intracellular generation of aldehydes with the improved periodate oxidation using 5-MA? Is the HATRIC reagent cell permeable, e.g. with a small molecule conjugate like folate?

3. The overall strategy and figure panel (Fig 2b) to identify “EGFR as the receptor for anti-EGFR antibody and transferrin receptor protein 1 (TFR1) as the receptor for Holo-transferrin (TRFE) from 1 million cells per sample” is confusing. The idea of testing the limit of detection for HATRIC (1 million cells) is clear, but how is this related to anti-EGFR antibody? Is this used instead of HATRIC? What is the relationship between EGFR and TRFE? This experiment should be described in the Methods section.

#### Minor Points

1. The first description of HATRIC in Fig 1b, has an application that is targeted to specific glycoproteins or glycoprotein classes using ligand coupling. Although the first generation of TRICEPS was also a LRC method, could HATRIC (and in general these technologies) be used to gain broad capture of the glycoproteome in the absence of ligand coupling.

2. In general for LRC technologies, is ligand-receptor activation and receptor-mediated events such as internalization an issue?

3. The authors state: “The novel workflow renders HATRIC-LRC independent of the PNGase F deglycosylation reaction, ultimately enabling a more robust relative quantification of cell surface receptors than is possible with first-generation LRC”. This seems to imply that the first-generation LRC (assume TRICEPS-LRC) could not be performed without PNGaseF. If TRICEPS-peptide capture was performed (as in the authors previous work), then I would agree. However, couldn't TRICEPS-LRC be performed with a protein capture, as described for HATRIC, which would allow bead-based digestion as well?

4. Conceptual flow of Figure 1b needs improvement. In the text, the description of steps follows from (1) periodate oxidation to (2) addition of HATRIC-LRC, but in Fig 1b, the periodate step is not explicit until the second box, which is after HATRIC-LRC/arrow graphic. The authors should illustrate the periodate oxidation step and resulting modifications explicitly, before addition of HATRIC-LRC?

5. The authors could consider integration the chemical structure of the catalyst 5-methoxyanthranilic acid (Fig 1c) into Fig 1d, perhaps as a mini-graphic next to the dashed trace, or alternatively, into the supplement.

6. In volcano plots for Fig 2, since there are a limited number of significant candidates, the authors should consider labeling all points with gene symbols/arrows, as needed.

7. For the IAV experiment, what was the rationale for choosing insulin as a control instead of quenched HATRIC? I assume this was a positive control? If so, this should be explained more explicitly. Given the authors employ several options for controls, a few sentences clarifying the practical selection of controls could be helpful, especially regarding the above two options. For

instance, if the positive control and experimental condition share a receptor, then the ratio would be 1:1 and eliminated from consideration.

8. In Figure 2f, what is an infection score? If it has units, it should be defined in the legend.

9. Include units of concentration on the x-axis in Supplementary Fig 1.

10. In the Tables, the authors should check their gene names for accuracy. For instance, in Table S1, the entries P09110 and O15427, the genes listed do not match the UniProt annotated genes.

# Point-by-point response

Reviewer #1 (Remarks to the Author):

- In this manuscript, the authors describe the synthesis and application of a novel trifunctional crosslinker, HATRIC (clever name, btw), which can be used to identify the cell-surface receptor of orphan ligands. This work builds on their previous work describing a similar crosslinker, TRICEPS. HATRIC has several advantages over TRICEPS including the ability to identify a wider selection of receptors since the HATRIC technology does not rely exclusively on the identification of N-glycopeptides. The authors also describe the use of HATRIC at physiological pH, with addition of a catalyst, compared to their published work with TRICEPS which was performed at pH 6.5. A nice set of applications is shown – including an interesting small molecule application with folate and an application to Influenza A virus.

- We would like to thank this reviewer for the very good summary emphasizing the advantages of the HATRIC-based LRC compared to the TRICEPS-based LRC technology which enabled the discovery of receptors involved in Influenza infection.

- Receptor identification of orphan ligands remains a challenging area and advancements in this area would be of interest to many bio-researchers. The HATRIC crosslinker itself is quite similar to the TRICEPS reagent previously described – the major functional difference being the replacement of the biotin group for an azide which would allow purification on an affinity resin, without additional protein contamination from streptavidin. HATRIC also has a different protecting group on the hydrazide functional group than TRICEPS, though the authors do not mention whether this has any functional consequences, or was simply a choice made for ease-of-synthesis or other considerations. Several of the major advantages of HATRIC that are highlighted in the manuscript by the authors have been previously described in work on the ASB crosslinker (reference 4 in this manuscript) – the ASB procedure as described also allows identification based on tryptic peptides from the entire protein, rather than focusing on the N-glycopeptides. Although not discussed in detail, the ASB procedure described also appears to use a catalyst and ligand binding is at pH 8.0. Since these appear to be the major advantages cited by the authors for HATRIC, the novelty aspect of HATRIC over TRICEPS may be lessened. There would be definite advantages of HATRIC over ASB – including the simplified ligand labelling and the enrichment using alkyne-beads rather than streptavidin beads. The authors have not described the previous work on ASB in this manuscript, nor compared it to HATRIC.

- We would like to thank the reviewer for the valuable suggestion to add information about similarities and differences compared to ASB. In principle, it is very good for the community that complementary technologies are

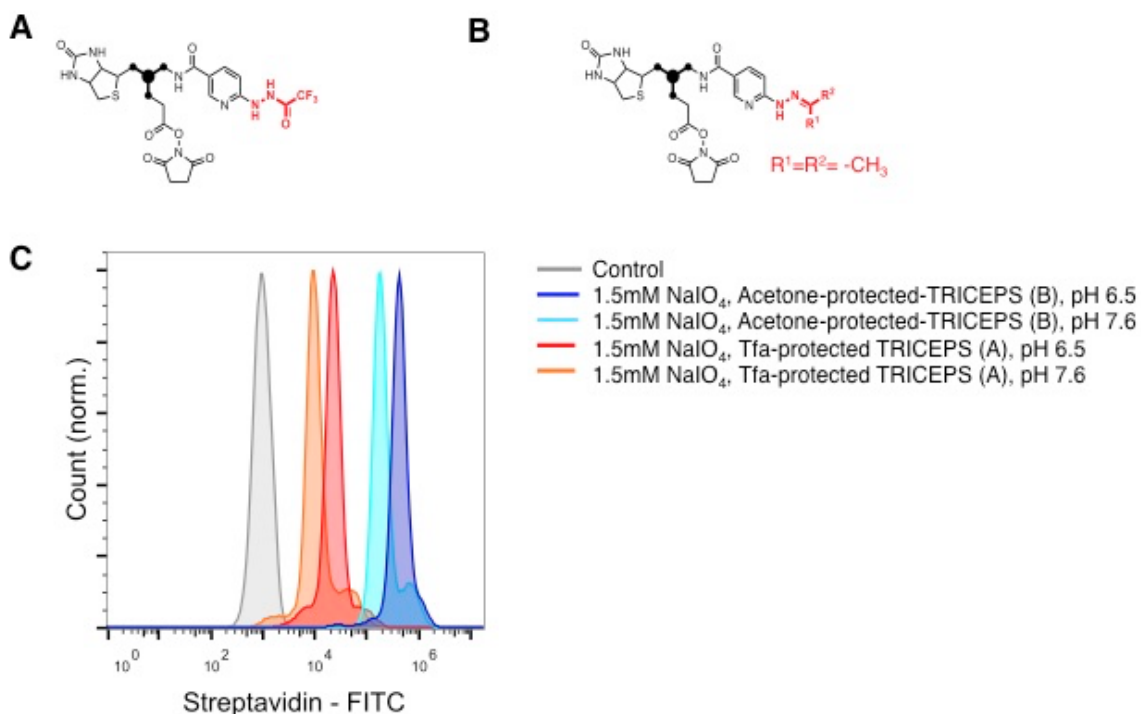


46 available to decode ligand receptor interactions. There is a wealth of ligands  
47 out there in search for receptors and having different strategies and  
48 chemistries available is certainly of advantage for the community. The  
49 HATRIC-based LRC strategy is indeed a protein-based workflow and this is  
50 similar in parts to the ASB strategy. However, the chemistry used for the  
51 HATRIC-based approach is novel and makes the difference. The next  
52 generation HATRIC sporting the acetone-protected hydrazide functionality in  
53 combination with click-chemistry and the catalyst, allowing for reactions in  
54 different ligand receptor interaction suitable pH ranges, enables now new  
55 applications and delivers results with unprecedented sensitivity, as shown in  
56 the manuscript. Furthermore, this new combination of chemistries within the  
57 HATRIC-LRC workflow allows for the first time a significant reduction of  
58 cellular starting material needed for the discovery of receptors compared to  
59 ASB and TRICEPS-based LRC workflows. HATRIC-LRC can be routinely  
60 performed with 1x 150mm dish vs. 5-7x 150mm plates in ASB and 4x 150mm  
61 plates in TRICEPS-LRC. In addition, the catalyst-enhanced HATRIC-LRC  
62 never required us to increase the sodium periodate concentration beyond 1.5  
63 mM (compared to up to 10mM in ASB) which is a clear advantage in respect  
64 to cell viability during the process of labeling, especially with primary cells.  
65 Finally, HATRIC-LRC - for the first time - enabled the receptor  
66 capture/identification with a small molecule compound which was never  
67 before demonstrated on cell surface proteins.

68 ○ We added new text as detailed below to the introduction and  
69 discussion section and after completion of the suggested edits, the  
70 revised manuscript has benefitted from an improvement in the overall  
71 presentation and clarity.

- 72
- 73 ● Regarding your comment related to the functional consequences of changing  
74 the hydrazide protection group in HATRIC we would like to provide you with  
75 more context and insights. Investigating the pH as a critical factor during the  
76 receptor capture reaction, we tested the impact of different protection groups  
77 on the yield of hydrazone formation on live cells at higher pH (pH 7.6). We  
78 employed the first generation of TRICEPS compounds bearing a NHS group  
79 coupled to a biotin and a hydrazide group and studied two different TRICEPS  
80 versions bearing either a trifluoroacetyl-protected (**PbP Figure 1A**) or  
81 acetone-protected (**PbP Figure 1B**) hydrazide. When comparing hydrazone  
82 formation of these two TRICEPS versions on the cell surface, we detected

83 much brighter cell surface labeling with the acetone-protected hydrazone-  
84 containing compound compared to the Tfa-protected under the same  
85 conditions (visualized by Streptavidin-FITC) at both pH 6.5 and pH 7.6 on live  
86 A2.01 cells (**PbP Figure 1C**). These experiments, conducted in the absence  
87 of the catalyst, indicate higher reactivity in the cell surface micro-environment.  
88 The possibility to conduct the experiments at different pH levels, supported in  
89 addition kinetically by the the catalyst, turned out to be a major advantage for  
90 studying pH-sensitive ligand-receptor interactions, such as between folate  
91 and folate-receptor alpha: Folate-based receptor capturing was never  
92 successful at pH 6.5, but only at pH 7.4.  
93



94 **PbP Figure 1** | Flow cytometric comparison of pH-dependent hydrazone formation of  
95 glycine-quenched TRICEPS bearing two different protection groups: the original Tfa-  
96 protection group (**A**) or the new acetone-based protection group (**B**) on A2.01 cell line. Cells  
97 were oxidized with 1.5mM NaIO<sub>4</sub>.  
98

99

- 100 • **Changes to the manuscript:** “Ligand-based receptor capture (LRC)  
101 technology partly overcame these difficulties and enabled the identification of  
102 ligands for orphan N-glycoprotein-receptors using the tri-functional reagent  
103 TRICEPS (Frei et al. 2012, 2013) and modifications thereof in ASB (Tremblay  
104 and Hill 2017). Application of TRICEPS-LRC and ASB in different biological  
105 systems, however, revealed the need to redesign the first-generation

106 technologies: TRICEPS-LRC was intentionally designed to enable the  
107 identification of ligand-bound receptors solely based on formerly N-  
108 glycosylated peptides. O-glycosylated receptors and N-glycosylated receptors  
109 whose deamidated peptides were not detectable by mass spectrometry were  
110 eventually missed by this strategy. However, this peptide-based strategy  
111 benefitted from the ability and quality to be able to filter for deamidated  
112 receptor peptides as indicators of direct TRICEPS-crosslinking and ligand-  
113 binding. In contrast, in ASB, tryptic digestion is performed directly on  
114 Streptavidin beads, which enables protein-level affinity purification, enabling,  
115 in principle, the identification of receptors through non-glycopeptides.  
116 However, direct digestion of proteins bound to Streptavidin beads leads to  
117 major contaminations with streptavidin peptides, impairing identification and  
118 label-free quantification of receptor peptides. Furthermore, ASB requires  
119 performing a two-step reaction in order to couple the ligand to the cross-  
120 linker, and biotin transfer from ligand to receptor is mediated by reduction of a  
121 disulfide bond, making its application sensitive to reductive environments.  
122 Furthermore, the ASB strategy utilizes a catalyst to catalyze oxime formation  
123 on the cell surface at pH 8. Similar to first generation TRICEPS-LRC, ASB  
124 requires high amounts of starting material (50 million cells or 5-7 150mm  
125 plates) and captures ligand-receptor interactions at pH 8 compared to pH 6.5  
126 for TRICEPS LRC. The pH of the microenvironment directly influences the  
127 affinity between a ligand and its receptor, exemplified by ligands that are  
128 internalized upon receptor binding: The affinity for the receptor is high at pH  
129 7.4 on the surface of living cells, but decreases upon acidification (pH 6.5) in  
130 the endosome, leading to release of the ligand from the receptor. A prime  
131 example of this is folate, which has an affinity for folate receptor alpha  
132 (FOLR1) that is 2000 times lower at pH 6.5 than at pH 7.4 (Yang et al. 2007).  
133 Consequently, the folate receptor has not been detected by TRICEPS-LRC in  
134 the past, highlighting the need for a next-generation LRC suited for receptor  
135 deorphanization at physiological pH. [...]

136 To enable HATRIC-LRC under physiological conditions, it was necessary to  
137 accelerate the reaction of hydrazines with aldehydes, which is slow at neutral  
138 pH (Dirksen and Dawson 2008). Aniline has been exploited to catalyze similar  
139 reactions efficiently (Bhat et al. 2010), however, the cytotoxicity at the  
140 required concentration limits use with live cells (Khan et al. 1999). Aniline-  
141 derived water-soluble catalysts have been described that substantially  
142 improve catalysis of hydrazone formation, but none had been tested in

143 biological systems (Crisalli and Kool 2013). Evaluation of a number of aniline  
144 derivatives regarding their solubility, cytotoxicity and capability to enhance  
145 hydrazone formation between aldehydes on cell surface proteins and the  
146 HATRIC-hydrazide on living cells led to identification of 5-methoxyanthranilic  
147 acid (5-MA, **Fig. 1c**, **Supplementary Fig. 1**). 5-MA catalyzed hydrazone  
148 formation at a non-toxic concentration at pH 7.4 more efficiently than 2-  
149 amino-4,5-dimethoxy benzoic acid (ADA). Additionally, replacing the original  
150 Trifluoroacetyl-protection group of TRICEPS by an acetone-derived protection  
151 group in HATRIC enabled higher yield of hydrazone formation on live cells  
152 (**data not shown**). Last, we confirmed that under the chosen conditions,  
153 HATRIC does not penetrate cells avoiding contamination with intracellular  
154 proteins (**Supplementary Fig. 2**).

155 The manuscript is well-written and clearly presented.

- 156 • Thank you very much & the comment is very well appreciated.

157  
158 Scientifically and statistically the work presented in this manuscript appears to be generally  
159 solid and interesting. However, some details are lacking and the discussion/interpretation of  
160 the experiments and methods is quite limited, perhaps due to space constraints (?).

- 161 • The lack of some details is mainly due to the initial space constraints of the  
162 format. We now added more details in the text and in the supplementary  
163 information.

164  
165  
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167  
168 Specific comments:

169 1. The description of HATRIC-based ligand-receptor capture in the Materials and  
170 Methods section indicates that ligands were incubated with cells at pH 6.5 and does not  
171 mention use of a catalyst. This is in direct contradiction to what is discussed in the body of  
172 the paper.

- 173 • Thank you for noticing, this was indeed rectified as suggested by the  
174 reviewer.
- 175 • **Changes to the methods section:** Cells were washed once with PBS (pH  
176 6.5) and resuspended in 10ml PBS containing 5mM 5-MA (pH 7.4).

177  
178 2. Are peptides derived from the ligand itself an issue in this method? Would the  
179 presence of relatively large amounts of ligand peptides serve to limit loading on the mass  
180 spectrometer? If so, this should be mentioned and discussed openly in the manuscript.

- 181 • In theory, large amounts of ligands bound to the cell surface via the HATRIC  
182 compound could potentially cause problems, depending on the speed and  
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186

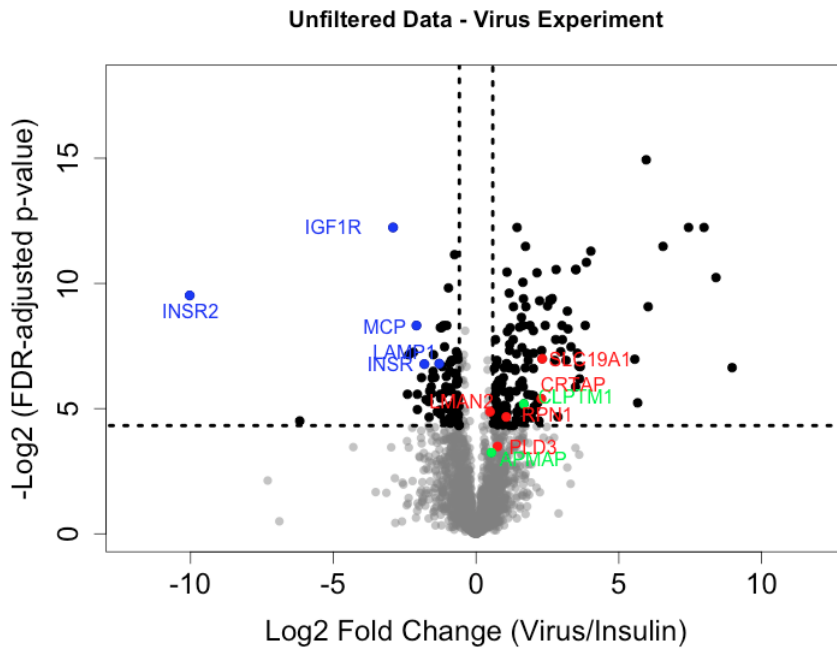
187 dynamic range of the MS instruments used for analysis. However, peptides  
188 from the ligand itself never presented an issue in our hands. Sample  
189 complexity remained low in HATRIC-based experiments and the improved  
190 speed and sensitivity of the latest Orbitrap instruments (QE, FUSION &  
191 LUMOS) enabled straightforward sample analysis.

192  
193 3. It appears that the authors have filtered out all proteins that were not on their list of  
194 cell surface proteins. Why have they chosen to do this? When this step is not taken, do they  
195 find that intracellular proteins are differentially expressed? This filtering step should be  
196 mentioned openly in the body of the manuscript and discussed.

197  
198 • This is correct and can be explained. The primary output of a HATRIC-LRC  
199 screen is a list of quantified spectral features representing all proteins  
200 identified in such an experiment. In this list, a number of proteins is identified  
201 that are not annotated to reside at the cell surface and/or do not contain  
202 transmembrane domains (we refer to this fraction as “nonspecific” proteins).  
203 We investigated several sources of this background but couldn’t determine  
204 the source and can thus only speculate about technical reasons why these  
205 proteins are identified in HATRIC-LRC screens, similar to other screening  
206 technologies. For the purpose of selecting receptor candidates for further  
207 validation, one can, in principle, directly quantitatively compare protein  
208 abundances of all identified proteins without any filtering. The quantitative  
209 comparison will help to hide the majority of “unspecific” proteins in the scatter  
210 plot as not specifically enriched, as these are somewhat equally identified  
211 across samples. This approach may be sufficient to identify highly abundant  
212 or large cell surface proteins or cell surface proteins that are highly  
213 soluble/MS detectable, but it highly neglects proteins that are small, of lower  
214 abundance or have many, hardly soluble transmembrane-spanning peptides.  
215 It is well known that cell surface proteins are notoriously difficult to identify by  
216 MS and our strategy enables the identification of hundreds of cell surface  
217 proteins using a chemoproteomic strategy. Therefore, this approach is  
218 inadequate when one is interested in these typically underrepresented  
219 species. To increase the informative value of such screens, we recommend to  
220 filter HATRIC-LRC data sets with our surfaceome filter to enable the  
221 identification of low abundant proteins that are typically overlooked and push  
222 them over the significance value against the background of “nonspecific”  
223 proteins with many peptides. **Taken together, filtering doesn’t change the**  
224 **fold changes of proteins across samples, but significantly affects p-**

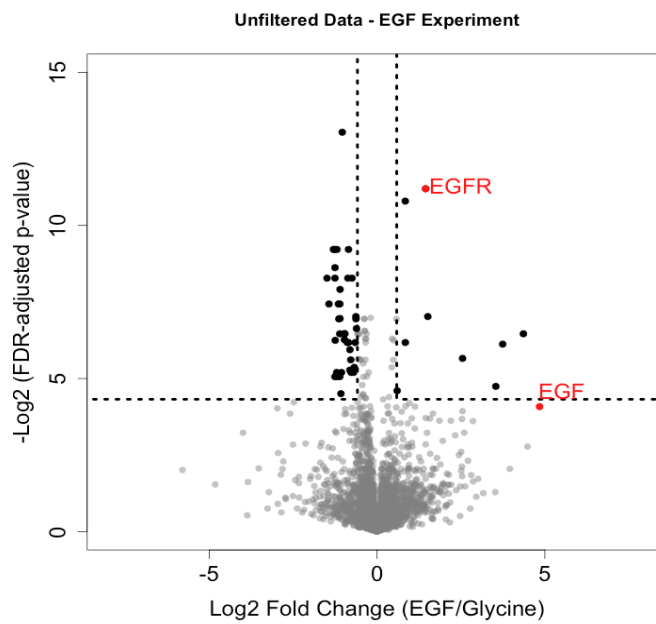
225 **values.** At the same time, the screening protocol is by no means 100%  
226 efficient and considerable losses of peptides are expected during glycan  
227 oxidation, aldehyde capturing, affinity purification and tryptic peptide release,  
228 as well as peptide purification. Therefore, in our experience, the “nonspecific”  
229 peptides are essential to “chaperone” the membrane protein-derived peptides  
230 to the MS. Further, we would like to point out politely that filtering is commonly  
231 performed in screens, such as filtering for proteins that are identified with a  
232 minimum number of peptides (ASB) or that carry specific sequence motifs  
233 such as the N[115]-X-S/T signature in TRICEPS-LRC. In cases, where no cell  
234 surface filter list is available (e. g. more exotic mammals), we recommend to  
235 include one further step in the protocol and release N-glycosylated peptides  
236 from the beads using PNGase F and limit quantification to proteins that were  
237 identified in the N-glycopeptide fraction.

238 ● All of this is best exemplified in **Pbp figures 2 and 3** where the virus and EGF  
239 data were left unfiltered prior to statistical analysis in MSstats 3.2.2. In the  
240 virus data analysis, two of our most promising receptor candidates, namely  
241 PLD3 and APMAP remain below significance level and would not have been  
242 further investigated (**PbP Figure 2**). However, in our follow-up experiments,  
243 both proteins showed promising evidence to impact viral entry. In the  
244 unfiltered experiment 2132 proteins were quantified in the virus and insulin  
245 sample, whereas our cell surface filtering left 213 proteins for quantitative  
246 analysis. Similar effects were observed for EGF (**PbP Figure 3**) where EGF  
247 remained below the significance cut-off even though we know that it was  
248 more abundant in the EGF sample. Interestingly, for the HATRIC LRC with 1  
249 million cells as starting material, no further filtering was required as the lower  
250 amount of cellular starting material lead to higher specificity in the sample,  
251 where 34% of proteins were already annotated as cell surface proteins  
252 (according to our surfaceome filter list).



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**PbP Figure 2** | Volcano plot from H3N2-based HATRIC-LRC on 20 million A549 cells without applying the surfaceome filter list prior to quantitative data analysis.



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**PbP Figure 3 / Supplementary Fig. 3** | Volcano plot from EGF-based HATRIC-LRC on 20 million H358 cells without applying the surfaceome filter list prior to quantitative data analysis.



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- **Changes to the manuscript:** [...] Trypsin-mediated proteolysis of bead-bound proteins releases the un-glycosylated peptides. These peptides are analyzed with high-accuracy mass spectrometry using data-dependent acquisition and filtered for known and predicted cell surface proteins. The quantitative comparison to the competitive control reaction reveals specific enrichment of target cell surface receptors for the ligand. [...] We validated HATRIC-LRC demonstrating capture of epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) using epidermal growth factor (EGF) as a ligand in an experiment with live H-358 cells (Fig. 2a). When quantifying all identified proteins across samples, we found 9 proteins significantly enriched in the EGF-captured samples, but only three of them were cell surface proteins, and EGF as ligand dropped below significance level. Statistical scoring of protein candidates is based on the number of peptides identified per proteins which leads to bias towards larger proteins or proteins whose peptides are easily detectable in MS (e. g. 19 features were quantified and scored statistically for EGFR, whereas only 1 peptide was quantified and scored for EGF). In order to overcome this bias, we used a filter for known and predicted cell surface proteins prior to statistical scoring to rescue receptor candidates where most peptides are hardly detectable via MS (e. g. due to decreased solubility) (**Supplementary Fig. 3, Supplementary Table 1**). Applying this filter prior to statistical analysis, we correctly identified EGF significantly enriched and identified five other EGF receptor candidates that have not been described before (**Supplementary Table 3**), namely monocarboxylate transporter 4 (SLC16A3), filamin-A (FLNA), peroxisomal 3-ketoacyl-CoA thiolase (ACAA1), transmembrane emp24 domain-containing protein 7 (TMED7) and sarcoplasmic/endoplasmic reticulum calcium ATPase 1 (AT2A1) (**Supplementary Table 3**). Reports of direct interactions between these proteins and EGF are not available, but it was shown before that SLC16A3 co-locates with CD147 in breast cancer cells (Gallagher et al. 2007), which in turn is associated with EGFR in similar lipid domains (Vial and McKeown-Longo 2012) suggesting that SLC16A3 resides in the neighbourhood of EGFR at the cell surface (Dai et al. 2013). [...]
- **Changes to the methods section:** For label-free quantification, proteins were filtered for cell surface location, based on the cell surface protein atlas (Bausch-Fluck D. et al. 2015, PLoS One 10: e0121314) and the human



298 surfaceome (Omasits U. et al., manuscript in preparation; **Supplementary**  
299 **Table 2**). The respective ligand was added to the filter list if not contained in  
300 the database. For the HATRIC-LRC screen with 1 million cells as starting  
301 material, no cell surface filtering was applied. Non-conflicting peptide feature  
302 intensities extracted with Progenesis QI (Nonlinear Dynamics).

303

304 4. The implied assertion that HATRIC enables identification of ligands from less cells  
305 than TRICEPS is not strongly supported. Both TFR1 and EGFR, that were used in the 1  
306 million cell experiment, are very highly abundant cell surface proteins in MDA-231 cells – is  
307 there any data to suggest that the TRICEPS method would not work with 1 million MDA-231  
308 cells with these ligands?

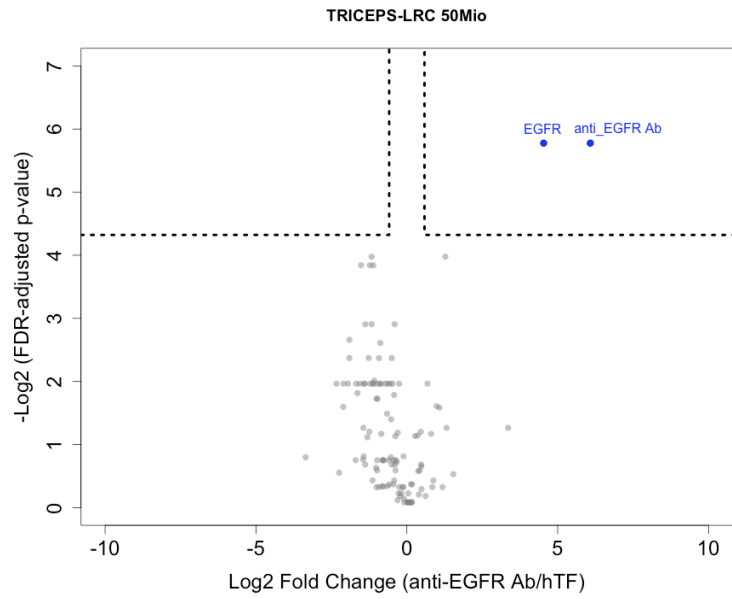
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310 ● We tried to identify EGFR and TFR1 using anti-EGFR antibody and holo-  
311 transferrin (hTF) on 1 million MDA-MB-231 by TRICEPS-LRC, but failed  
312 repeatedly (**PbP Fig. 5, PbP Fig. 7**). In parallel, we conducted TRICEPS-LRC  
313 on 50 million MDA-MB-231 cells and successfully identified EGFR as receptor  
314 for EGF (**PbP Fig. 4, PbP Fig. 6**). However, we were also not able to identify  
315 TFR1 for receptor of hTF in this particular experiment. This might be  
316 explained by the fact that transferrin is released from the cell at pH 5.5  
317 making the experimental setup with transferrin prone to failure in the low pH  
318 setting of TRICEPS-LRC. When conducting the same experimental setup  
319 using insulin and EGF as ligands, we were only able to identify the  
320 corresponding receptors on 50 million cells and identified none of the  
321 receptors with 1 million cells as starting material. In all experiments, we used  
322 the originally published experimental conditions to perform TRICEPS-LRC  
323 (Frei et al. 2013).

324 ● These experiments highlight the difficulty to identify receptors solely based on  
325 N-glycopeptides with the original TRICEPS LRC in a reliable and reproducible  
326 fashion from lower amounts of cells, even if the receptors are of high  
327 abundance on this particular cell line. These experiments just serve as  
328 examples for a larger number of experiments that we conducted in our  
329 laboratory pointing in the same direction. Due to the new chemistry and  
330 workflow used in HATRIC-based LRC workflows we do now have the  
331 opportunity to deorphanize ligands and detect their receptor(s) from as little  
332 as one million cells.

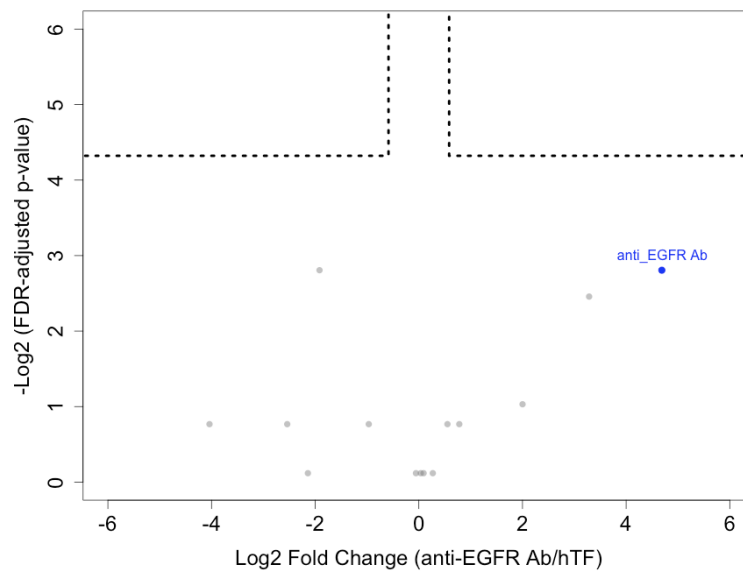
333 ● We added PbP Figures 4&5 to the supplement (**Supplementary Fig. 5**).

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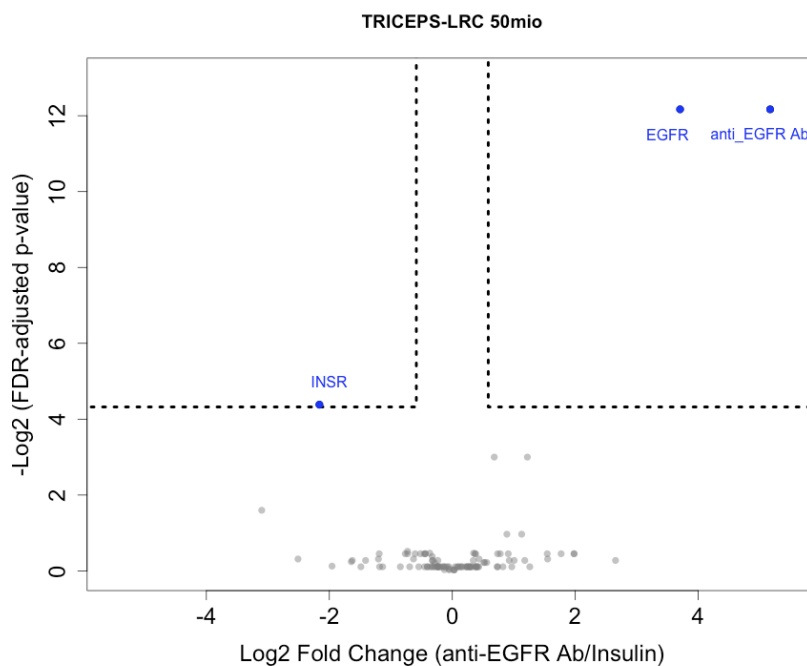
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**PbP Figure 4 / Supplementary Figure 5A** | Volcano plot from anti-EGFR antibody- and holo-transferrin-based TRICEPS-LRC on 50 million MDA-MB231 cells.



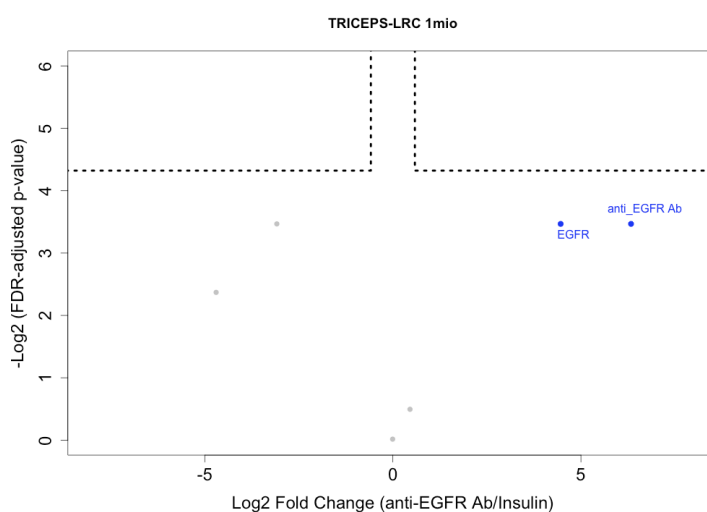
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**PbP Figure 5 / Supplementary Figure 5B** | Volcano plot from anti-EGFR antibody- and holo-transferrin-based TRICEPS-LRC on 1 million MDA-MB231 cells.



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**PbP Figure 6** | Volcano plot from anti-EGFR antibody- and insulin-based TRICEPS-LRC on 50 million MDA-MB231 cells.



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**PbP Figure 7** | Volcano plot from anti-EGFR antibody- and insulin-based TRICEPS-LRC on 1 million MDA-MB231 cells.

- Changes to the manuscript:** As HATRIC-LRC is based on protein-level purification, more than one peptide is commonly identified per protein, such as exemplified by EGFR (**Supplementary Fig. 4**). Therefore, we investigated the HATRIC-LRC detection limit with respect to the amount of starting material needed for successful receptor identification. From as little as one million MDA-MB-231 cells per sample, we were able to unambiguously

358 identify EGFR as the receptor for HATRIC-coupled anti-EGFR antibody and  
359 transferrin receptor protein 1 (TFR1) as the receptor for HATRIC-coupled  
360 Holo-transferrin (TRFE) (**Fig. 2b**) which was not possible with TRICEPS-LRC  
361 (**Supplementary Figure 5, Supplementary Table 6**). Where possible, we  
362 recommend the usage of of 5-20 million cells in order to detect low copy  
363 number receptors based on a given sensitivity of the MS instrument used for  
364 analysis.

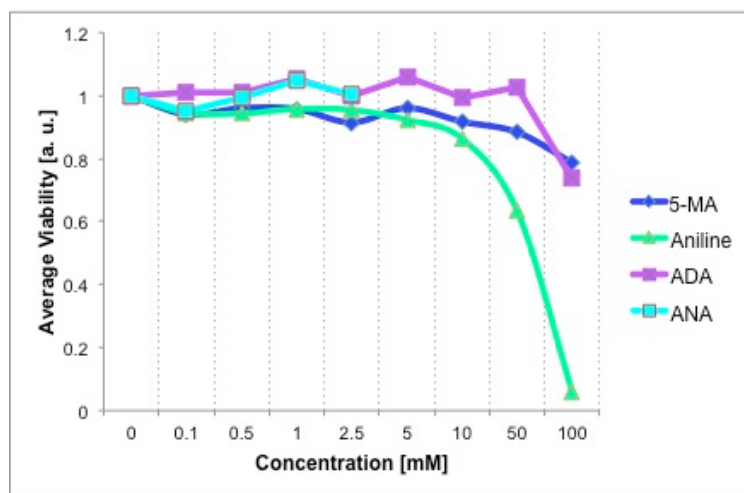
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367 5. If possible, it would be informative to show data for the other catalysts that were  
368 tested, so there is more information on why 5-MA was selected. "Evaluation of a number of  
369 aniline derivatives led to the identification of 5-MA..."

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372 • We identified four potentially relevant catalysts in the literature and in  
373 discussions with the Carreira group at ETH: aniline, 2-amino-4,5-dimethoxy  
374 benzoic acid (ADA), 3-amino-2-naphthoic acid (ANA) and 5-  
375 methoxyanthranilic acid (5-MA). We excluded p-phenylenediamine very early  
376 due to suggested oxidative instability and toxicity (Kool, Chem Rev, 20017,  
377 117, 10358 as well as Kool, ACS Chem Biol 2016, 11, 2312). First, we  
378 investigated water solubility in PBS: All tested compounds were soluble in  
379 PBS at least up to a concentration of 100mM with exception of ANA (fully  
380 soluble up to 1mM only with 0.2% DMSO) and was therefore excluded from  
381 further analysis. We executed alamarBlue™ cytotoxicity assays to determine  
382 cell viability at catalytically relevant concentrations (**PbP Figure 8**). Avoiding  
383 cytotoxicity is essential to HATRIC-LRC, as disrupting cellular integrity would  
384 lead to unwanted labeling of intracellular proteins. Upon cytotoxicity testing,  
385 we excluded aniline for the highest cytotoxicity. As 5-MA is a derivative of  
386 anthranilic acid, a substrate in the tryptophan biosynthesis, cytotoxicity was  
387 expected to be reduced compared to aniline. However, these findings were  
388 never confirmed experimentally for reactions on live cells. This is the first time  
389 reported that 5-MA was used on live cells where no cytotoxic side effects  
390 were observed and hydrazone formation was catalyzed.

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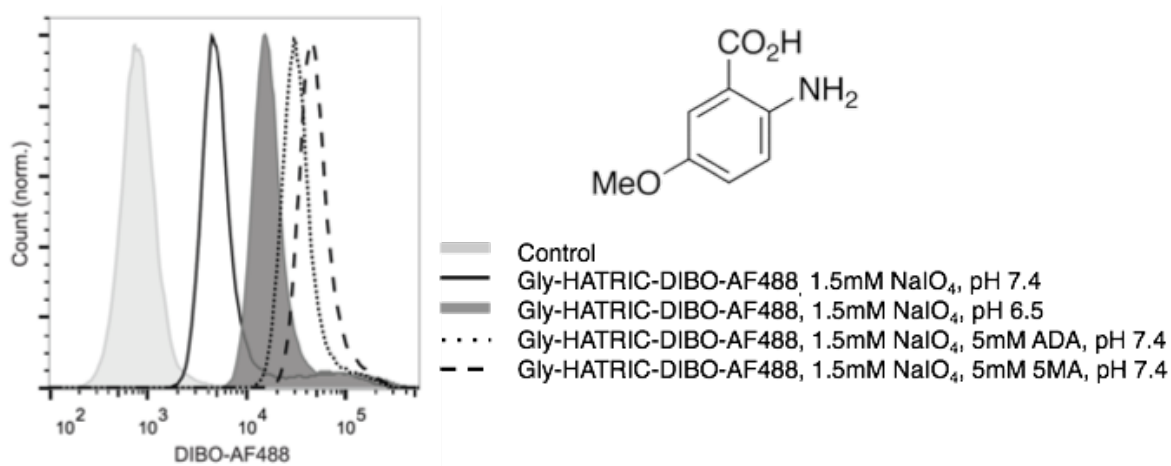
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 392 **PbP Figure 8 / Supplementary Figure 1** | Cytotoxicity of aniline and aniline-derived  
 393 organocatalysts on MDA-MB 231. MDA-MB 231 cells (20.000 cells/well in a 96-well plate)  
 394 were treated with the indicated concentrations of catalyst in DMEM (pH adjusted to 7.4, 1%  
 395 Pen/Strep) for 1.5h at 37°C. Supernatant was replaced by 100ul DMEM with 10%  
 396 alamarBlue™ reagent (ThermoScientific) and incubated for 5h at 37°C in the dark. Assay  
 397 was read out by a fluoreader (Ex: 545nm, Em: 590nm, automatic gain).

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 399 

- We tested both ADA and 5-MA in the flow cytometric experiment presented

  
 400 (Fig. 1C) for catalysis of hydrazone formation on live cells. 5-MA showed the  
 401 highest catalytic effect in a HATRIC-LRC, as assessed by FACS. The  
 402 difference between 5MA and ADA was small, but reproducible and led to the  
 403 decision to use 5-MA in all future experiments.

404



405  
 406 **PbP Figure 9 / Figure 1C** | Flow cytometry traces of U-2932 cells incubated with HATRIC  
 407 conjugated to dibenzocyclooctyne-Alexa Fluor 488 (DIBO-AF488) at pH 6.5 or pH 7.4 in the  
 408 presence or absence of organocatalyst 5-methoxyanthranilic acid (5-MA) (Structure shown,  
 409 Mw = 167.16 g/mol) or 2-amino-4,5-dimethoxy benzoic acid (ADA). HATRIC was quenched

410 with glycine (Gly-) to avoid potential reaction of HATRIC's NHS-ester with aminogroups at  
411 the cell surface. Shift to the right indicates more efficient labeling with HATRIC-DIBO-AF488.

412

413 • **Changes to the manuscript:** We included both figures (cytotoxicity and  
414 FACS) and changed the figure legend as follows: [...] Evaluation of a number  
415 of aniline derivatives regarding their solubility, cytotoxicity and capability to  
416 enhance hydrazone formation between aldehydes on cell surface proteins  
417 and the HATRIC-hydrazide on living cells led to identification of 5-  
418 methoxyanthranilic acid (5-MA, **Fig. 1c, Supplementary Fig. 1**). 5-MA  
419 catalyzed hydrazone formation at a non-toxic concentration at pH 7.4 more  
420 efficiently than 2-amino-4,5-dimethoxy benzoic acid (ADA). [...]

421 • **Figure Legend 1C:** [...] Flow cytometry traces of U-2932 cells incubated with  
422 HATRIC conjugated to dibenzocyclooctyne-Alexa Fluor 488 (DIBO-AF488) at  
423 pH 6.5 or pH 7.4 in the presence or absence of organocatalyst 5-  
424 methoxyanthranilic acid (5-MA) (Structure shown, Mw = 167.16 g/mol) or 2-  
425 amino-4,5-dimethoxy benzoic acid (ADA). [...]

426

427 • **Changes to the materials and methods section:**

428 ○ **Catalyst Cytotoxicity Assays:** MDA-MB 231 cells (20.000 cells/well  
429 in a 96-well plate) were treated with the indicated concentrations of  
430 catalyst in DMEM (pH adjusted to 7.4, 1% Pen/Strep) for 1.5h at 37°C.  
431 Supernatant was replaced by 100ul DMEM with 10% alamarBlue™  
432 reagent (ThermoScientific) and incubated for 5h at 37°C in the dark.  
433 Assay was read out by a fluoreader (Ex: 545nm, Em: 590nm,  
434 automatic gain).

435 ○ **FACS:** [...] Cells were labeled with 75 µM glycine-quenched HATRIC-  
436 DIBO-AF488 conjugates for 60 min at 4 °C with slow rotation in the  
437 presence or absence of 5 mM 5-MA or 5mM ADA.

438

439 6. Interpretation of the alternative candidate EGF receptors needs to be handled with  
440 some caution. Is there any evidence that some of these 'candidate receptors' truly bind to  
441 EGF? Is it possible that these proteins may simply be co-localized on the cell surface with  
442 the true receptor, leading to enriched proximity-based crosslinking via HATRIC? As written,  
443 some biologists may mistakenly take the proteins in Supp Table 1 as 'proven' EGF  
444 receptors.

445

446 • HATRIC-LRC is a screening technology which enables the identification of  
447 receptor candidates. In certain case scenarios, identified candidates may not  
448 be direct interaction partners of the ligand as you pointed out. Apart from the

449 main receptor, other candidates identified could be “next door neighbours”,  
450 potentially influencing receptor activity, which were captured due to proximity  
451 to the main receptor. We are following up on this exciting possibility. Given  
452 the experimental setup, the candidates identified from HATRIC-LRC  
453 experiments can generally be the result of four reasons: (1) there is a direct  
454 interaction of the ligand with the target receptor; (2) the protein is in close  
455 proximity of the target receptor (“neighbourhood protein”); (3) the protein gets  
456 upregulated in response to treatment with the ligand and gets  
457 overrepresented in the background binding of HATRIC (e. g. we use  
458 approximately 8 times more EGF than is used for stimulation experiments) or  
459 (4) the identified candidate is a false positive. Our experiments do not allow  
460 us to delineate right away which type of interaction was observed, but the  
461 validation experiments and the cited data clearly underline the relevance of  
462 the identified proteins. The analysis pipeline was optimized to allow for  
463 identification and ranking of receptor candidates. However, the resulting data  
464 have to be analyzed carefully and more stringent receptor spaces can be  
465 defined based on the identification of positive control receptors or the ligand  
466 (e.g. EGF). Identified candidates need validation in tailor-made follow-up  
467 experiments, such as siRNA-based approaches. These approaches cannot  
468 be generalized and for every LRC application the type of follow-up experiment  
469 will depend on the type of ligand, the biological context, and the tools  
470 available for the system under study. However, we would also like to point out  
471 that the biological relevance of the neighbouring proteins is not to be  
472 underestimated either. Proteins that are in close proximity of the target  
473 receptor might interfere with the activity of the actual target and are therefore  
474 relevant for future studies of the lateral cell surface interactome. HATRIC-  
475 LRC could potentially also be used to generate candidates for such studies -  
476 another exciting application of HATRIC-LRC for life science research.

477

- 478 • **Changes to the manuscript:** [...] Applying this filter prior to statistical  
479 analysis, we correctly identified EGF significantly enriched and identified five  
480 other EGF receptor candidates that have not been described before  
481 (**Supplementary Table 3-4**), namely monocarboxylate transporter 4  
482 (SLC16A3), filamin-A (FLNA), peroxisomal 3-ketoacyl-CoA thiolase (ACAA1),  
483 transmembrane emp24 domain-containing protein 7 (TMED7) and  
484 sarcoplasmic/endoplasmic reticulum calcium ATPase 1 (AT2A1)  
485 (**Supplementary Table 3-4**). Reports of direct interactions between these

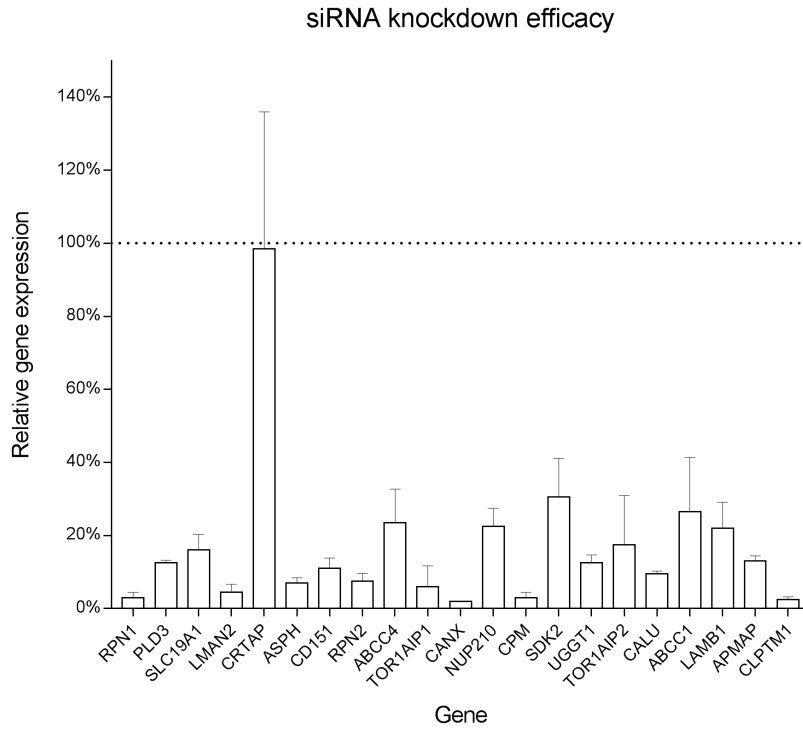
486 proteins and EGF are not available, but it was shown before that SLC16A3  
487 co-locates with CD147 in breast cancer cells (Gallagher et al. 2007), which in  
488 turn is associated with EGFR in similar lipid domains (Vial and McKeown-  
489 Longo 2012) suggesting that SLC16A3 resides in the neighbourhood of  
490 EGFR at the cell surface (Dai et al. 2013). [...] Given the experimental setup,  
491 the candidates identified from HATRIC-LRC experiments can generally be the  
492 result of four scenarios (1) there is a direct interaction of the ligand with the  
493 target receptor; (2) the protein is in close proximity of the target receptor  
494 (“neighbourhood protein”); (3) the protein gets upregulated in response to  
495 treatment with the ligand and gets overrepresented in the background binding  
496 of HATRIC (e. g. we use approximately 8 times more EGF than is used for  
497 stimulation experiments) or (4) the identified candidate is a false positive. A  
498 single HATRIC-LRC experiment does not allow us to delineate which type of  
499 interaction was observed, but the validation experiments and the cited data  
500 clearly underline the biological relevance of the identified proteins. The  
501 analysis pipeline was optimized to allow for the identification and ranking of  
502 receptor candidates. However, the resulting data have to be analyzed  
503 carefully and more stringent receptor spaces can be defined based on the  
504 identification of positive control receptors or the ligand (e.g. EGF). Identified  
505 candidates need validation in tailor-made follow-up experiments, such as  
506 siRNA-based approaches. [...]

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508 7. For the viral work, an interesting follow-on functional study is shown. For this work,  
509 the authors should show the level of depletion achieved by the siRNAs for each of these  
510 targets. For interpretation of this data, it is important for the reader to know if all of the  
511 candidate receptors were successfully depleted and, if so, by how much?

512  
513 • We would like to thank the reviewer for the comment and we have addressed  
514 this now in our revised manuscript. To this end, we performed real time RT-  
515 PCR for all 21 genes and quantified the gene depletion level (**Pbp Figure**  
516 **10/Supplementary Figure 8**). The experiment was repeated twice with  
517 similar results. Twenty genes showed above 70% depletion of the respective  
518 mRNA i.e. >90%, 9 genes; >80%, 6 genes; >70%, 5 genes. A single gene,  
519 CRTAP, showed no reduction upon siRNA treatment. We conclude that IAV  
520 infection in CRTAP siRNA-treated cells were reduced to unknown off-target  
521 effects (see original manuscript (**Fig. 2F**)). Thus, we removed CRTAP from  
522 the infection data figure (**Fig. 2F**).

523





524

525 **PbP Figure 10 / Supplementary Figure 8** | Results of qPCR from siRNA-transfected cells.

526 siRNA-mediated silencing of IAV-interacting candidates was assessed using a  $\Delta\Delta C_t$  method

527 to determine the relative gene expression from qPCR data using HPRT as the housekeeping

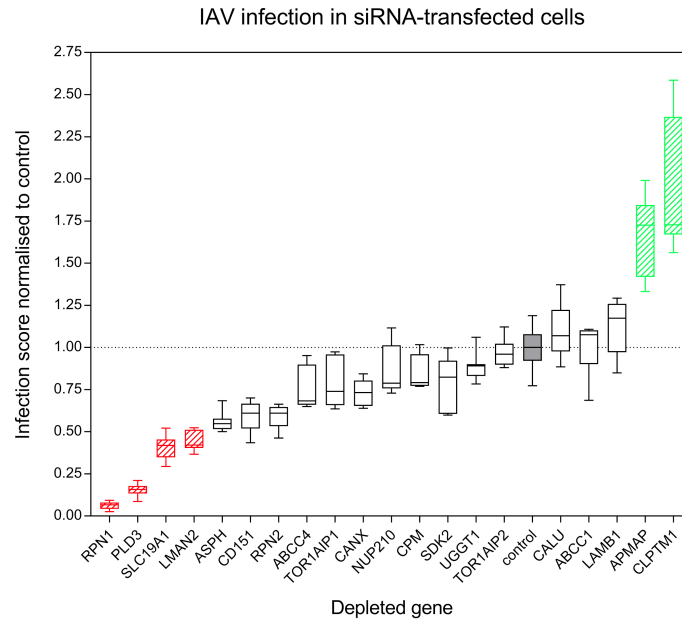
528 gene. For all genes tested, siRNA-mediated knockdown resulted in 70-98% reduction in

529 mRNA levels compared to non-targeting siRNA control. The bars represent relative gene

530 expression relative to the control taken from biological duplicates with standard deviation.

531 The experiment was repeated twice with similar results.

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535 **PbP Figure 11 / Figure 2F** | Effect of siRNA-mediated depletion of candidate receptors on  
 536 IAV infection of A549 cells. Experiments were conducted in triplicate. Infection scores from  
 537 siRNA-treated samples were normalized to control samples transfected with non-targeting  
 538 siRNA (shown in grey). Data are presented as boxplots with whiskers from minimum to  
 539 maximum values.

540

- 541 • **Changes to the manuscript:** [...] To determine whether candidate receptors  
 542 impact IAV entry, we depleted A549 cells of 21 of these proteins using short  
 543 interfering RNA (siRNA) and analyzed infection efficiency. siRNA-mediated  
 544 depletion of more than 70% was confirmed by real time RT-PCR in 20 genes.  
 545 We excluded cartilage-associated protein (CRTAP) from further analysis as  
 546 siRNA treatment failed to deplete it (**Supplementary Fig. 8**). Depletion of four  
 547 proteins, phospholipase D3 (PLD3), ribophorin I (RPN1), folate transporter 1  
 548 (SLC19A1) and vesicular integral-membrane protein VIP36 (LMAN2) reduced  
 549 IAV infection by more than 50% relative to cells treated with control siRNA  
 550 (**Fig. 2f**). [...]

551

552 8. Viral mediated entry is a very complicated cellular process, utilizing a wide variety of  
 553 physiological pathways. I wonder if 21 randomly selected reasonably high abundance cell-  
 554 surface expressed proteins were chosen for this experiment, would the 'hit rate' would be  
 555 lower than what was seen here? So many proteins would affect one aspect or another of  
 556 viral entry...

557

558           • We believe the hit rate would be considerably lower if random cell surface  
559 proteins were selected. The reason is the following: Of the validated genome-  
560 wide siRNA screens performed against IAV infection (Brass et al. 2009)  
561 (Karlas et al. 2010) (König et al. 2010), the number of targeted genes were  
562 17877, 22843, and 19628, respectively, of which ‘validated hits’ (hit genes  
563 against which depletion of the gene was confirmed by at least two siRNAs)  
564 were only 129 (0.72%), 168 (0.73%), and 219 (1.1%), respectively. In our  
565 HATRIC-LRC screen, we retrieved 21 genes from which we removed one  
566 gene (CRTAP) due to failed siRNA depletion. Of the remaining 20, 2 genes  
567 (RPN1, PLD3) reduced infection >80% (strong decreaser hits), another 2  
568 genes (SLC19A1, LMAN2) reduced infection >55% (weak decreaser hits),  
569 and another 2 genes (APMAP, CLPTM1) increased infection >70% (increaser  
570 hits). The depletion of these genes was verified by RT-PCR. It is clear from  
571 this result that the genes enriched using the HATRIC-LRC approach were  
572 highly enriched in hit genes (20% i.e. 4 out of 20) compared to a randomly  
573 selected pool of genes (Please also find more comments on pages 28 and  
574 following of our point-by-point response). 14 out of the 20 genes did not give  
575 a noteworthy effect on IAV infection when knocked-down as single genes.  
576 However, that silencing of a single factor did not completely attenuate  
577 infection was not surprising. This likely reflects the complex nature of  
578 influenza-host cell interactions in which multiple virus and cellular factors  
579 each contribute to successful and potentially cooperative binding and  
580 infection.

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582 Minor comments:

583 1. The information provided on the MS results is minimal. While it is great that the MS  
584 raw files have been made available, some minimal information should be provided in the  
585 manuscript/supplementary info. For example, no peptide-level results are shown or provided.  
586 At a minimum, the number of unique peptides identified/quantified for each protein should be  
587 provided in the manuscript. Ideally, some information on the quantitative variability seen  
588 between different peptides from the same protein should also be provided.

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590           • We added tables containing the complete information on peptides used for  
591 quantification for each data set (Progenesis output tables, **Supplementary**  
592 **tables 1A, 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A, 9A**) and the outcome of our statistical analysis  
593 containing all information necessary to create volcano plots (**Supplementary**  
594 **tables 1B, 4B, 5B, 6B, 7B, 9B**). This information will provide a transparent  
595 overview on the quality of the data.

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2. More details on the statistical methods used would be helpful. How were protein-level p-values determined? How was quantitative data from individual peptides combined? How were the different technical replicates used for this calculation? What modules from MSstats were used?

- Thank you for noticing, it was indeed very short and we rectified it now.
- **Changes to the manuscript:** For label-free quantification, proteins were filtered for cell surface location, based on the cell surface protein atlas (Bausch-Fluck et al. 2015) and the human surfaceome (Omasits U. et al., manuscript in preparation; **supplementary table 3**) and non-conflicting peptide feature intensities extracted with Progenesis QI (Nonlinear Dynamics). The output of Progenesis is a list of quantified spectral features representing peptides of cell surface proteins with multiple charge states and differential modifications. In MSstats3 (v3.2.2), the features were log-transformed, and then subjected to constant normalization (Choi et al. 2014). Protein fold changes and their statistical significance between paired conditions were tested using at least two fully tryptic peptides per protein or one fully tryptic peptide per protein for the 1 million cell experiment. The minimum intensity for each peptide feature was set to 500. Tests for significant changes in protein abundance across conditions are based on a family of linear mixed-effects models. In the last step of the analysis, *P* values are adjusted for multiple comparisons to control the experiment-wide FDR at a desired level using the Benjamini-Hochberg method. Proteins were considered candidates if they showed a fold-change of 1.5 or higher and an adjusted p-value of 0.05 or lower.

3. Methods section: pH required for digestion buffer description.

- **Changes to the manuscript:** Cells were pelleted, washed twice with PBS (pH 7.4) to remove unbound HATRIC, and lysed with 8M Urea, 0.1% RapiGest SF (Waters) containing protease inhibitors (cOmplete, Roche), pH 8.

4. The main body text describing the 1 million cell experiment should mention that this was in MDA-231 cells.

- **Changes to the manuscript:** [...] From as little as one million MDA-MB-231 cells per sample, we were able to unambiguously identify EGFR as the

636 receptor for HATRIC-coupled anti-EGFR antibody and transferrin receptor  
637 protein 1 (TFR1) as the receptor for HATRIC-coupled Holo-transferrin (TRFE)  
638 (Fig. 2b) which was not possible with TRICEPS-LRC (Supplementary  
639 Figure 5, Supplementary Table 6). Where possible, we recommend the  
640 usage of 5-20 million cells in order to detect low copy number receptors  
641 based on a given sensitivity of the MS instrument used for analysis.[...]

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643

644 Reviewer #2 (Remarks to the Author):

645

646 The manuscript by Sobotzki et al. describes a novel technique to fish for cellular receptors  
647 for a variety of ligands, including proteins, small molecules and viruses. The authors  
648 developed a trifunctional organic compound, which can covalently link proteinaceous ligands  
649 and through a second reactive group covalently link receptor molecules after incubation of  
650 the compound-ligand molecule with target cells. Finally a third reactive group allows the  
651 purification of putative receptor-ligand-compound complexes by click chemistry. Purified  
652 proteins are quantified by LC-MS/MS analysis using standard protocols and compared to  
653 control conditions, in which receptor binding of the compound labeled ligand is competed for  
654 with an excess of unlabeled ligand or the compound is rendered inactive by glycine  
655 quenching. The authors perform four proof-of-principle experiments. First they use the  
656 method to confirm epidermal growth factor (EGF) binding to EGF receptor (EGFR). Second,  
657 they determine the experimental threshold using transferrin binding to its cognate receptor.  
658 Third, the authors demonstrate applicability to the small organic ligand folate. Lastly, they  
659 perform an experiment with influenza A virus bound to human lung epithelial cells. While the  
660 compound synthesis and the first three proof-of-principle experiments are well designed and  
661 controlled, the experiments on influenza virus require some attention. Moreover I  
662 recommend a thorough discussion of the discrepancy between the identified IAV attachment  
663 factors and previously described host factors (multiple RNAi screens). Also the false positive  
664 rate should be discussed as detailed below. Overall, the manuscript is however very well  
665 written and the description of methods is clear to non-expert readers. Statistical analysis of  
666 MS data is sound. Once the points below are addressed, I favor publication of this  
667 description of an exciting and promising new technology, which is clearly of interest to  
668 various fields of biology.

669

- 670 • We would like to thank the reviewer for the insightful summary. We have  
671 revised the manuscript to include a section that clearly discusses the role of  
672 the identified IAV entry facilitators or inhibitors and what was previously  
673 known about these proteins.

674

675 Major comments:

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- 677 1. Fig. 2e. Why was insulin used as control ligand? While the first three experiments  
678 were well controlled, this control seems random. New datasets with compound-free virus  
679 competition or quenched virus would seem better controls.

680

681                   • This is a valid and appreciated argument raised from this reviewer and we  
682 agree with the reviewer that on the first glance, the choice of this ligand  
683 appears random. However, we would like to politely point out, that we  
684 deliberately chose insulin as a technical control ligand in the virus-receptor  
685 capture experiment. In contrast to the other experiments reported in the  
686 paper, we didn't know which receptors to expect for influenza. Given the  
687 rather long protocol and the risk of bias in the result due to differential sample  
688 processing, we wanted to use a ligand with known receptor specificity that  
689 would allow us to come to a distinct decision if the experiment was successful  
690 on the technical level and if the results qualify for follow-on experiments.  
691 However, we do agree with the reviewer that the best experimental setup is to  
692 have three samples tested in parallel: A ligand with known specificity (positive  
693 control), the virus (the sample) as well as competition with unmodified virus or  
694 quenched virus (negative control). For future experiments, this expanded  
695 setup might lead to improved scoring of candidates and could be beneficial  
696 for receptor identification.

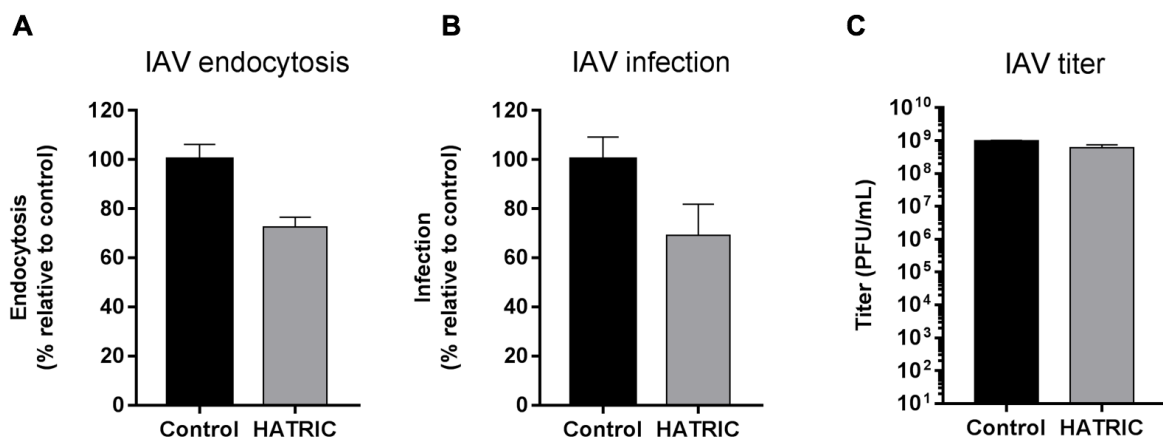
697  
698 2. Fig. 2e. Compound labeling of viruses can strongly affect infectivity. The authors  
699 should perform control experiments, in which they compare titers of virus before and after  
700 labeling. Moreover the effect of labeling on the specific infectivity (infectious particle /  
701 genome copy number) should be measured.

702  
703                   • Please see a combined response below.

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705 3. Fig. 2e. Compound labeling of small enveloped viruses such as influenza A virus  
706 may affect its entry route. The authors should experimentally demonstrate that the entry  
707 pathway into A549 cells is not altered after compound labeling of the virus particles using  
708 inhibitory compounds and/or imaging techniques.

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711                   • The response is combined for the above two points: We thank the reviewer  
712 for these comments. It is indeed possible that compound labeling with  
713 HATRIC (albeit at 2 HATRIC molecules per virion) could affect infectivity and  
714 could alter the entry pathway of IAV particles. We performed IAV endocytosis,  
715 primary infection, and multi-step growth assays using IAV labeled with  
716 HATRIC or incubated with buffer alone (**PbP Figure 12 / Supplementary  
717 Figure 6**). HATRIC-conjugated or unconjugated IAV particles were processed  
718 for the endocytosis and infection assays as described previously (Banerjee et  
719 al. 2011). For IAV titration, virus was infected in 10-fold serial dilutions onto

720 MDCK II cells. Plaques were counted after 3 days of infection and the viral  
721 plaque forming unit (PFU) was calculated per mL of inoculant.  
722 • There was an approximately 30% decrease of IAV endocytic uptake  
723 (Banerjee et al. 2011), infection, and replication titer when viruses were  
724 conjugated to HATRIC (PbP Figure 12 / Supplementary Figure 6). This  
725 suggests that HATRIC coupling reduces IAV endocytosis, but those that have  
726 been endocytosed, infect and replicate as well as non-conjugated virus.  
727

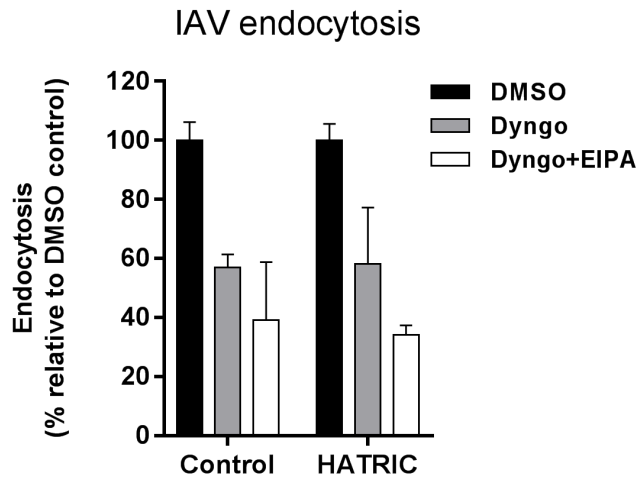


728 **PbP Figure 12 / Supplementary Figure 6** | Impact of HATRIC-coupling to influenza on  
729 efficiency of viral endocytosis (A), infectivity (B) and IAV titer (C). IAV particles were left  
730 unchanged (control) or coupled to HATRIC (HATRIC) and submitted to endocytosis assay  
731 (25 min post warming) and infection assay (7 hpi) as described previously (Banerjee et al.  
732 2011). For IAV titration, control and HATRIC-conjugated virus was infected in a 10-fold serial  
733 dilution series onto a monolayer of MDCK II cells and overlaid with 1.2 % Avicel containing  
734 MEM. Plaques were counted after 3 days of infection and the plaque forming unit (PFU) was  
735 calculated per mL of inoculant.  
736

737  
738 • IAV endocytosis utilises two main pathways i.e. clathrin-mediated  
739 endocytosis, macropinocytosis, and a third, poorly characterised pathway that  
740 is dynamin-independent and actin-dependent. To confirm that HATRIC  
741 coupling did not influence the endocytic pathways used by IAV, we performed  
742 endocytosis assays using inhibitors against dynamin (Dyngo-4a) and  
743 micropinocytosis/fluid uptake (EIPA). We normalised the decrease in  
744 endocytic uptake compared to the DMSO-treated cells for the control and  
745 HATRIC-coupled IAV, respectively (PbP Figure 13 / Supplementary Figure  
746 7). Based on the inhibitory effects of Dyngo-4a and Dyngo-4a/EIPA  
747 combined, we conclude that the endocytic pathways used for virus cell entry

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are identical for both HATRIC-treated and non-treated IAV. EIPA treatment alone did not reduce IAV endocytosis (not shown). HATRIC did not influence virus attachment to the cell surface.



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**PbP Figure 13 / Supplementary Figure 7** | A549 cells were pretreated with Dyngo-4a (50µM) or both Dyngo-4a and EIPA (80 µM) for 30 min, after which equal volumes of IAV were bound for 45 min on ice in the presence of the drug(s). The cells were then washed and incubated at 37°C for 25 min in the presence of the drug(s), fixed and stained for endocytosis analysis (Banerjee et al. 2011).

759 

- **Changes to the manuscript:** [...] We used HATRIC-LRC to shed light on the complex interactions between IAV and its host cells. Human IAV H3N2 (strain X-31) was coupled to HATRIC and it was demonstrated that although coupling reduces IAV endocytosis, the particles used similar endocytic pathways to the wild-type virus (**Supplementary Figures 6 & 7**). We conducted H3N2-based HATRIC-LRC on to 20 million human lung adenocarcinoma (A549) cells and compared to the control ligand insulin. We identified 24 virus-interacting candidates (**Fig. 2e, Supplementary Table 7-8**). [...]

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4. Fig. 2 and lines 316-331: The authors should explain the filtering for cell surface molecules in the main manuscript, not only in the methods. They should disclaim, which fraction of the identified proteins was cell surface associated according to e.g. GO annotation.

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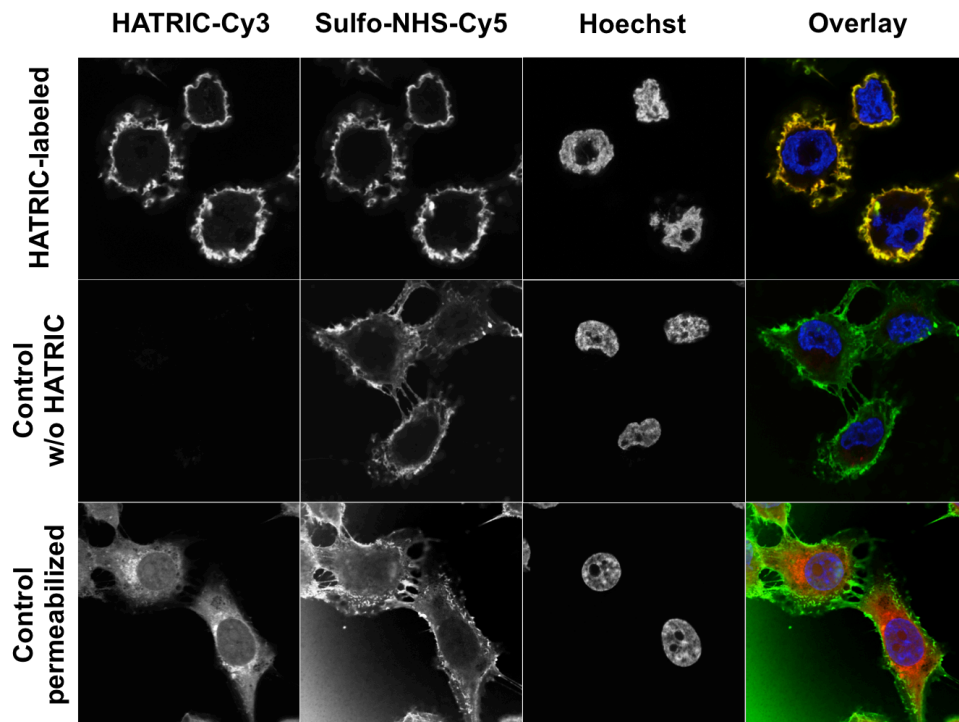
- Please find a detailed response to this comment on page 6/7 of the point-by-point response.



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5. Fig. 2e. Why was a nuclear pore protein (NUP210) identified despite the surfaceome filtering? What is the leakiness of the method towards cytoplasmic or nuclear proteins?

- As pointed out earlier, we filter our data for proteins that are annotated to be located at the cell surface. We identified NUP210 here because it is in this filter list, namely in the cell surface protein atlas (CSPA) filter list annotated as high confidence protein (Bausch-Fluck et al. 2015). NUP210 contains several N-glycosylation sites as well as transmembrane domains, allowing in theory the localization at the plasma membrane. We conducted confocal microscopy imaging and HATRIC co-localized with cell surface staining. These data show that HATRIC doesn't penetrate cells which allows us to exclude this as a technical contamination as a nonspecific protein. However, our and previous experiments provide evidence that NUP210 might be located at the cell surface at some point in its lifetime: Greber et al. found that Nup210 is a transmembrane nucleoporin with a long luminal domain, a single transmembrane segment, and a short 55 amino acid nuclear/cytoplasmic tail, a structure that resembles that of viral membrane fusion proteins (Greber, Senior, and Gerace 1990). Therefore, it might be possible that a fraction of Nup210 could function as a fusogenic protein at the plasma membrane. However, when fractionating postmitotic myotubes by sequential centrifugation, Nup210 was only detected in the nuclear fraction (D'Angelo et al. 2012).
- **Changes to the Manuscript:** [...] Evaluation of a number of aniline derivatives regarding their solubility, cytotoxicity and capability to enhance hydrazone formation between aldehydes on cell surface proteins and the HATRIC-hydrazide on living cells led to identification of 5-methoxyanthranilic acid (5-MA, **Fig. 1c**). 5-MA catalyzed hydrazone formation at a non-toxic concentration at pH 7.4 more efficiently than 2-amino-4,5-dimethoxy benzoic acid (ADA) (**Fig. 1c, Supplementary Fig. 1**). Additionally, replacing the original Trifluoroacetyl-protection group of TRICEPS by an acetone-derived protection group in HATRIC enabled higher yield of hydrazone formation on live cells (data not shown). Last, we confirmed that under the chosen conditions, HATRIC does not penetrate cells, to avoid contamination with intracellular proteins (**Supplementary Fig. 2**). [...]



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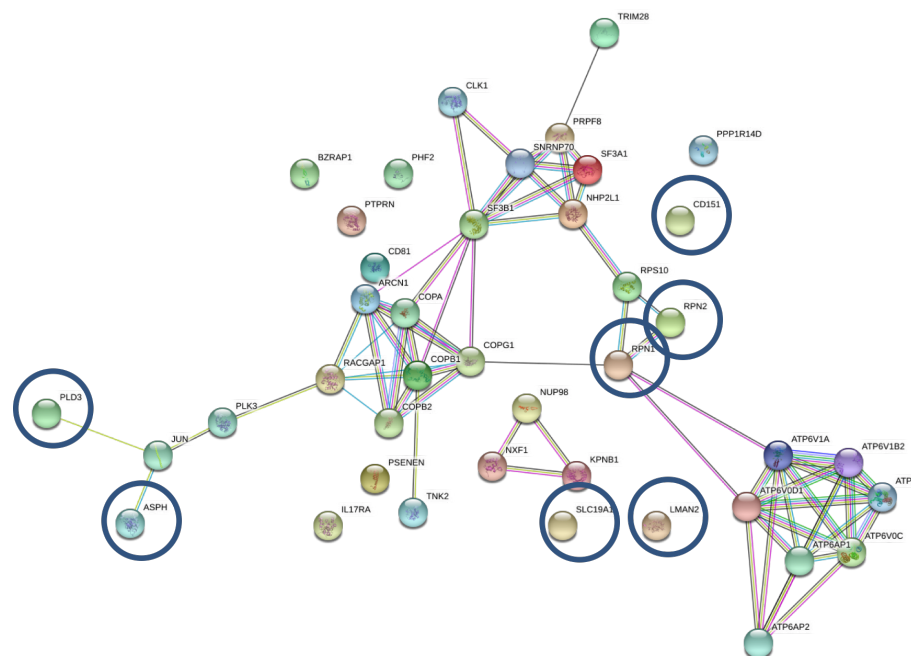
815 **PbP Figure 14 / Supplementary Figure 2 | HATRIC co-localizes with cell surface**  
816 **staining as shown by confocal microscopy imaging** (RED=HATRIC-Amine-Cy3,  
817 GREEN=Sulfo-NHS-Cy5, BLUE=Hoechst). HATRIC was pre-coupled to equimolar amine-  
818 Cy3 (Lumiprobe) in 25mM HEPES (pH 8.2) for 1.5h at RT and 300rpm in the dark. MDA-MB-  
819 231 cells cultured on coverslips were oxidized with 1ml 1.5mM sodium periodate in PBS, pH  
820 6.5 for 15min and labeled with 6μM HATRIC-Cy3 or amine-Cy3 (Control w/o HATRIC) in 1ml  
821 PBS with 5mM 5-MA (pH 7.4) for 1.5h at 4°C shaking in the dark. As a cell surface marker,  
822 cells were labeled with 0.5ml 1mM sulfo-NHS-Cy5 (Lumiprobe). Nuclei were stained with  
823 0.5ml 1μg/ml Hoechst (Molecular probes H1399) for 10min at 4°C. Cells were fixed with 4%  
824 paraformaldehyde for 10min at RT, mounted with anti-fade mounting medium (Molecular  
825 Probes Prolong Gold Antifade reagent P36934) and analysed by confocal microscopy (Leica  
826 TCS SP2). For a permeabilized control, cells were first stained with sulfo-NHS-Cy5 and  
827 fixed, and then permeabilized with 0.1% Triton X-100 for 10min at RT, before oxidation and  
828 labeling with HATRIC-Cy3.

829

830 6. Line 177: Multiple RNA interference (RNAi) screens on influenza have been  
831 published, with some overlap. It is recommended that the authors discuss in more detail why  
832 on the one hand the published RNAi hits were not discovered in their HATRIC experiment  
833 and on the other hand, why their MS hits were vice versa not previously identified in any of  
834 the influenza host factor searches.

835

836 ● Of the 5 independent siRNA screens on IAV that were published, three have  
 837 been validated (Brass et al. 2009; Karlas et al. 2010; König et al. 2010). Of  
 838 the 129, 168, 219 genes that were validated as hits from these three screens,  
 839 34 genes were shared in two or more of them. Only 3 genes (ARCN1,  
 840 ATP6AP1, and COPG) were shared among all three. The little overlap  
 841 between individual IAV RNAi screens has been described elsewhere (Sertz  
 842 and Shaw 2011). This low number of overlapping genes is similar to what has  
 843 been observed for the RNAi screens performed against HIV-1. We compared  
 844 our top 7 decreaser hits (RPN1, PLD3, SLC19A1, LMAN2, ASPH, CD151,  
 845 RPN2) with the 34 genes above using STRING: functional protein association  
 846 networks (PbP Figure 15).



847 **PbP Figure 15 | Network of influenza interaction candidates.** We compared our influenza  
 848 entry candidates to 34 genes that were validated as hits in at least two of the published,  
 849 independent IAV siRNA screens.  
 850

- 851
- 852 ● RPN1 (Ribophorin I), RPN2 (Ribophorin II), PLD3 (Phospholipase D3), ASPH  
 853 (Aspartate beta-hydroxylase) formed connections with the 34 genes. Below  
 854 are the genes that have been published as hits for IAV which are similar to  
 855 function to PLD3 and SLC19A1 [Solute carrier family 19 (folate transporter),  
 856 member 1] derived via HATRIC-LRC.
    - 857 ○ PLD2 (Phospholipase D2) (*Karlas*) (also see (Oguin et al. 2014)).
    - 858 ○ Solute carriers:
      - 859 ■ SLC4A3, SLC2A2, SLC1A3, SLC35A1 (*Brass*)

- 860                   ■ SLC22A6 (*Karlas*)
- 861                   ■ SLC48A1, SLC6A19 (*König*).
- 862           ● However, IAV X31 expresses the external genes derived from a H3N2
- 863            influenza A strain, thus *may use a different subset of cell surface genes to*
- 864            *enter cells* compared to PR8 and WSN (H1N1). Below is a summary of the
- 865            IAV strains used in our HATRIC-LRC screen and other published validated
- 866            screens (**PbP Figure 16**):
- 867            ○ Sobotzki et al.: X31(reassortant strain of external genes of
- 868            [A/Aichi/2/68 (*H3N2*) and internal genes of A/PR/8/34 (H1N1)];
- 869            ○ Brass et al (2009): A/PR/8/34 (H1N1);
- 870            ○ Karlas et al., (2010): A/WSN/1933 (H1N1);
- 871            ○ König et al., (2010): recombinant A/WSN/1933 (H1N1) in which the
- 872            HA gene was replaced by *Renilla* luciferase.
- 873
- 874

IAV RNAi screens	<i>Sobotzki et al.</i>	<i>Brass et al. (2009)</i>	<i>Karlas et al. (2010)</i>	<i>König et al. (2010)</i>
Host cell	A549 (Human)	U2OS (Human)	A549 (Human)	A549 (Human)
Virus	X31	PR8	WSN	recombinant WSN
Readout	NP expression	HA expression	1 <sup>st</sup> cycle: NP expression 2 <sup>nd</sup> cycle: luciferase activity	Luciferase activity
siRNA source	Dharmacon	Dharmacon	Qiagen	Qiagen
Length of RNAi treatment	72 h	72 h	48 h	48 h
Time of assay readout	7 hpi	12 hpi	24 hpi	12, 24, 36 hpi
Virus stages captured	Attachment until protein expression	Attachment until HA surface trafficking	Attachment until budding/release	Attachment until protein expression
Genes targeted	20	17,877	22,843	19,628
Validated hits	4	129	168	219
Hit rate	20%	0.72%	0.73%	1.1%

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876 **PbP Figure 16** | Descriptions of the validated siRNA screens performed with  
877 influenza virus. Adapted from Stertz & Shaw, (2011). hpi, hours post infection.

- 878
- 879           ● **Changes to the manuscript:** [...] Of the receptor candidates identified using
- 880            HATRIC-LCR, none have been implicated previously in mediating H3N2
- 881            infection. However, it has been shown that related phospholipase  $\gamma$ 1 (PLC- $\gamma$ 1)

882 signaling is activated by H1N1 and mediates efficient viral entry in human  
883 epithelial cells(Zhu, Ly, and Liang 2013). Of the 5 independent genome-wide  
884 siRNA screens on IAV that were published, three have been validated (Brass  
885 et al. 2009; Karlas et al. 2010; König et al. 2010). Of the 129, 168, 219 genes  
886 that were validated as hits from these three screens, 34 were shared in two or  
887 more. Only 3 genes (ARCN1, ATP6AP1, and COPG) were shared among all  
888 three. A comparison of our top 7 decrease genes (RPN1, PLD3, SLC19A1,  
889 LMAN2, ASPH, CD151, RPN2) with the 34 genes revealed mild functional  
890 overlap as shown by STRING (Supplementary Fig. 9). We also had 4 strong  
891 hits (i.e. increased or decreased infection by more than 70%) out of 20  
892 validated genes – a hit rate of 20% - which is considerably higher compared  
893 to the genome-wide screens (~1%). [...]

894

895 7. A differentiated discussion on the limitations of the technology is missing. Can any  
896 small ligand be linked to the HATRIC compound without affecting receptor affinity? What are  
897 the requirements of organic compounds to be successfully fused to HATRIC by synthesis?  
898

899

900 • Like every other technology HATRIC-LRC does have limitations: (1) HATRIC-  
901 LRC is a screening technology that may lead to identification of candidate(s)  
902 which need to be further validated in order to investigate the precise role of  
903 the identified receptor in the biology and signaling of the ligand. (2)  
904 Identification of “nonspecific” proteins makes data filtering indispensable.  
905 Data filtering might lead to exclusion of proteins that are relevant candidates  
906 but are not included in the filter list. (3) HATRIC-LRC can be coupled to (small  
907 molecule) ligands that bear primary amine groups (no other prerequisites  
908 required) which might require a more complex synthesis strategy and (4)  
909 modification of small molecules with a rather large compound like HATRIC  
910 (Mw 1171.4 g/mol) may drastically change activity of the compound.  
911 However, there is no other method to investigate receptor binding of ligands  
912 on live cells requiring this little amount of cells and there is no other method  
913 that allows for direct identification of cell surface receptors for small  
914 molecules. Also, identification of false positives may also occur with all other  
915 available screening approaches, such as TRICEPS-LRC and ASB.

916 • **Changes to the manuscript:** [...] We demonstrated that HATRIC-LRC  
917 enables ligand-receptor identification from as few as 1 million cells at  
918 physiological pH through new chemistry combining HATRIC, a water-soluble  
919 catalyst, and click chemistry-based protein-level affinity purification in a  
919 competition-based workflow. Even though HATRIC-LRC is a screening

920 technology that leads to candidate receptors, including potentially false  
921 positive receptor candidates, which need to further validated, its ability to  
922 detect biologically meaningful ligand-receptor interactions remains  
923 unmatched. The power of HATRIC-LRC to detect functionally relevant cell  
924 surface interactions was demonstrated using ligands ranging from small  
925 molecules to intact influenza A virus particles. [...]

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928 8. The full MS datasets should be disclosed in supplementary tables and deposited in  
929 public online repositories such as the EMBL/EBI IntAct database. In particular for the  
930 influenza A virus experiment.

931

932 • All MS data have been deposited to the MassIVE repository  
933 (<http://massive.ucsd.edu/> MassIVE ID: MSV000081228).

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935

936 Minor comments:

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938 1. Full protein names are not mentioned. Please write out the full names at first  
939 mentioning of a protein abbreviation, such as FOLR1.

940

941 • Thank you for noticing, this has been rectified.

942

943 2. Supplementary table 3: The human surfaceome should be presented with separate  
944 columns for gene name, protein name and Uniprot accession number for easier accessibility.

945

946 • Thank you for proposing this, we adapted the list accordingly. Please note  
947 that the entry Q5VU13 became obsolete.

948

949 3. Fig. 2e,f. The gene/protein names do not match between Fig. 2e, Fig. 2f, Tab. S2  
950 and Tab S4. If the authors decide to use protein names in Fig. 2e and gene names in Fig. 2f,  
951 it is advisable to include both – protein names and gene names – in Tab S2 and S4 to allow  
952 the reader to match the datasets.

953

954 • Thank you for noticing, this was rectified accordingly. The table S2 was  
955 changed to match the figures (all proteins are reported with their gene names  
956 now): MRP4 was changed to ABCC4; CALX was changed to CANX; CBPM  
957 was changed to CPM; PO210 was changed to NUP210; UGGG1 was  
958 changed to UGGT1; TOIP2 was changed to TOIR1AIP2; MRP1 was changed  
959 to ABCC1; TOIP1 was changed to TOIR1AIP1; S19A1 was changed to  
960 SLC19A1; CLPT1 was changed to CLPTM1

961



962 4. Certain proteins, which were silenced (Fig. 2f), are not included in Tab. S2 or  
963 annotated differently. Examples are SLC19A1, NUP210, ABCC4.

964

- 965 • Thank you for noticing, this was rectified accordingly by adapting the gene  
966 names as described above.

967

968 Reviewer #3 (Remarks to the Author):

969

970 In the manuscript from Sobotzki et al., the authors demonstrate their development of next-  
971 generation LRC method. Having been the leading developers of the first-generation  
972 reagents, TRICEPS-LRC, the Wollscheid laboratory is well-suited to evolve this useful  
973 technology for improved coverage, applicability, and sensitivity. The updated methodology,  
974 termed HATRIC, still employs the key step of receptor sugar alcohol to aldehyde periodate  
975 oxidation, and subsequent coupling to the hydrazine-containing probe. However, the authors  
976 optimized the periodate oxidation to achieve high efficiency at neutral pH. In addition, the  
977 authors introduced Click chemistry in the HATRIC reagent. These optimizations directly  
978 contribute to the improved sensitivity of the approach, with a minimum requirement of  
979 between 1 -2 orders of magnitude less cellular material. The authors experimentally  
980 demonstrated the results of HATRIC-LRC with 1 million cells, though as mentioned in the  
981 comments below, the explanation of this experiment in the manuscript could be improved.  
982 The work nicely demonstrates the broad application of the method to a range of ligands,  
983 including the small molecule folate, the polypeptide EGF, and the intact virus, influenza A.  
984 The authors convincingly demonstrated that their technology could identify biologically  
985 relevant cell surface receptors of IAV by validation with siRNA knockdown of candidate IAV  
986 cell surface receptors during infection. However, as mentioned in the main comments  
987 section, the authors did not fully discuss why none of the known IAV receptors were  
988 identified.

989

990 Overall, this is a strong methodological study with significant application to biomedical and  
991 pharmaceutical research, particularly in contributing to the characterization of orphan  
992 receptors. The authors do have a few outstanding and several minor points to address;  
993 however, if these can be addressed, I would recommend the manuscript for publication.

994

995 Main Points

996 1. A general main point is the lack of discussion related to novel identified candidates or  
997 lack of identification for known candidates in the case of IAV. For instance, in addition to  
998 identifying the known receptors for the EGF and folate ligands, the authors found several  
999 other putative candidates, which the authors did not discuss.

1000

- 1001 • We would like to thank the reviewer for the valuable suggestion to add  
1002 information about putative receptor candidates for the ligands EGF and folate.  
1003 The lack of some details is mainly due to the initial space constraints of the  
1004 format. We now added more details in the text and in the supplementary  
1005 information.

- 1006
- **Changes to the manuscript** about candidate receptors identified for EGF can be found on page 10 of the point-by-point response.
  - **Changes to the manuscript** about candidate receptors identified for folate: We incubated the folate-HATRIC conjugate with 20 million HeLa Kyoto cells at pH 7.4. In the control, we added six-fold excess of unmodified folate. We detected interactions with FOLR1 and with a small set of further receptor candidates (**Fig. 2c, d; Supplementary Table 6**). We suggest that other folate receptors (e. g. FOLR2) were not identified as their affinity towards folate is lower than the affinity of FOLR1, i. e. FOLR2 has a two-fold reduced affinity for folate compared to FOLR1 or because they are not expressed in HeLa Kyoto cells (Brigle et al. 1994). Related approaches studied methotrexate-based labeling of FOLR1, but western blot read-outs didn't provide information about other folate receptor candidates (Fujishima et al. 2012).

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1021

1022 What percent were known or predicted cell surface or secreted proteins? In addition, for the  
1023 IAV experiments, the authors state: " We identified 24 virus-interacting candidates (Fig. 2e,  
1024 Supplementary Table 2)." Before discussing the siRNA results, the authors should expand  
1025 on their statement. Later in the manuscript, the authors mention that none have been  
1026 previously implicated. However, it might be appropriate for the authors to briefly discuss  
1027 here, (1) that these targets didn't include the known receptors, (2) how many known receptor  
1028 targets are there for IAV, (3) their thoughts on why HATRIC did not capture them?

1029  
1030

- Thank you for your insightful request. We would like to politely point out that there are no confirmed receptors for the specific IAV strain that we used in the paper. Other studies in the influenza field are reviewed on p. 28 of the point-by-point response and following pages.

1034

1035 2. Did the authors evaluate intracellular generation of aldehydes with the improved  
1036 periodate oxidation using 5-MA? Is the HATRIC reagent cell permeable, e.g. with a small  
1037 molecule conjugate like folate?

1038

- We would like to point out politely that 5-MA doesn't affect periodate oxidation (oxidation with sodium periodate is a separate step in the protocol), but catalyzes hydrazone formation between the acetone-protected hydrazone of HATRIC and cell surface aldehydes that were generated before through periodate oxidation. We acknowledge that the major issue here seems to be an unclear presentation of our proceedings and we rectified this in our revised manuscript. However, we agree with this reviewer that investigating cell

1045



1046 permeability of HATRIC is particularly interesting in the context of small  
1047 molecule-based capture experiments. We conducted confocal microscopy  
1048 imaging and HATRIC co-localized with cell surface staining. This shows that  
1049 HATRIC doesn't penetrate cells which avoids non specific labeling of  
1050 intracellular proteins. Please see the data and figure provided for the previous  
1051 reviewer on page 26/27 for more detailed information.

1052

- 1053 • **Changes to the manuscript:**[...] First, the ligand is linked through a primary  
1054 amine to the NHS-moiety of HATRIC (**Fig. 1b**). Second, living cells are mildly  
1055 oxidized with sodium-meta-periodate to generate aldehydes from cell surface  
1056 carbohydrates. Third, the HATRIC-ligand conjugate is added to the cells in  
1057 the presence of catalyst 5-methoxyanthranilic acid (5-MA) and receptor-  
1058 capture performed at pH 7.4. The ligand enhances local HATRIC reactivity in  
1059 the vicinity of the target receptor or receptors, and receptor aldehydes react  
1060 with the acetone-derived hydrazone of HATRIC. In the control, the HATRIC-  
1061 conjugated ligand is applied to the cells in the presence of an excess  
1062 unmodified ligand. Here, the ligand-HATRIC conjugate reacts randomly with  
1063 cell surface glycoproteins. [...] **Evaluation of a number of aniline derivatives**  
1064 **regarding their solubility, cytotoxicity and capability to enhance hydrazone**  
1065 **formation between aldehydes on cell surface proteins and the HATRIC-**  
1066 **hydrazide on living cells led to identification of 5-methoxyanthranilic acid (5-**  
1067 **MA, Fig. 1c). 5-MA catalyzed hydrazone formation at a non-toxic**  
1068 **concentration at pH 7.4 more efficiently than 2-amino-4,5-dimethoxy benzoic**  
1069 **acid (ADA). Fig. 1c, Supplementary Fig. 1).** Additionally, replacing the  
1070 original Trifluoroacetyl-protecting group of TRICEPS by an acetone-derived  
1071 protection group in HATRIC enabled higher yield of hydrazone formation on  
1072 live cells (data not shown). **Last, we confirmed that under the chosen**  
1073 **conditions, HATRIC does not penetrate cells avoiding contamination with**  
1074 **intracellular proteins (Supplementary Fig. 2). [...]**

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1077 3. The overall strategy and figure panel (Fig 2b) to identify “EGFR as the receptor for  
1078 anti-EGFR antibody and transferrin receptor protein 1 (TFR1) as the receptor for Holo-  
1079 transferrin (TRFE) from 1 million cells per sample” is confusing. The idea of testing the limit  
1080 of detection for HATRIC (1 million cells) is clear, but how is this related to anti-EGFR  
1081 antibody? Is this used instead of HATRIC? What is the relationship between EGFR and  
1082 TRFE? This experiment should be described in the Methods section.

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- The strategy of this experiment was to test if we were able to identify the receptors for well-known ligand-receptor pairs from as little cells as possible. To this end, we selected the ligand “anti-EGFR antibody” that we knew binds reliably to EGFR on the cell surface. We conducted a Standard HATRIC-LRC where HATRIC is coupled to this antibody (or to holo-transferrin in the control reaction) and successfully identified EGFR (or transferrin receptor protein 1) from 1 million cells. We acknowledge that this was presented in a suboptimal way in the main text and have adapted the manuscript accordingly below.
  - **Changes to the manuscript:** As HATRIC-LRC is based on protein-level purification, more than one peptide is commonly identified per protein, such as exemplified by EGFR (**Supplementary Fig. 4**). Therefore, we investigated the HATRIC-LRC detection limit with respect to the amount of starting material needed for successful receptor identification. From as little as one million MDA-MB-231 cells per sample, we were able to unambiguously identify EGFR as the receptor for HATRIC-coupled anti-EGFR antibody and transferrin receptor protein 1 (TFR1) as the receptor for HATRIC-coupled Holo-transferrin (TRFE) (**Fig. 2b**) which was not possible with TRICEPS-LRC (**Supplementary Figure 5, Supplementary Table 6**). Where possible, we recommend the usage of 5-20 million cells in order to detect low copy number receptors based on a given sensitivity of the MS instrument used for analysis.

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#### 1107 Minor Points

1108 1. The first description of HATRIC in Fig 1b, has an application that is targeted to  
1109 specific glycoproteins or glycoprotein classes using ligand coupling. Although the first  
1110 generation of TRICEPS was also a LRC method, could HATRIC (and in general these  
1111 technologies) be used to gain broad capture of the glycoproteome in the absence of ligand  
1112 coupling.

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- Yes, in principle it is conceivable to use HATRIC to study the glycoproteome at the cell surface. In such a setup, we suggest to quench the amine-reactive NHS-moiety of HATRIC with glycine to avoid unwanted side reactions. However, technologies based on two-functional compounds were developed before addressing exactly that question, such as biocytin hydrazide-based cell surface capture which might be more suitable to address such questions (Wollscheid et al. 2009).

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1122 2. In general for LRC technologies, is ligand-receptor activation and receptor-mediated  
1123 events such as internalization an issue?  
1124

1125 • Thank you for that insightful comment. We conduct the whole experiment on  
1126 ice which prevents such receptor-mediated internalization events as also can  
1127 be seen from our previously presented microscopy data.  
1128

1129 • **Changes to the manuscript:** [...] First, the ligand is linked through a primary  
1130 amine to the NHS-moiety of HATRIC (Fig. 1b). Second, living cells are mildly  
1131 oxidized with sodium-meta-periodate to generate aldehydes from cell surface  
1132 carbohydrates. During the whole experiment, cells are kept on ice to prevent  
1133 any receptor-mediated internalization events. Third, the HATRIC-ligand  
1134 conjugate is added to the cells. The ligand enhances local HATRIC reactivity  
1135 in the vicinity of the target receptor or receptors, and receptor aldehydes react  
1136 with the acetone-derived hydrazone of HATRIC. In the control, the HATRIC-  
1137 conjugated ligand is applied to the cells in the presence of an excess  
1138 unmodified ligand. Here, the ligand-HATRIC conjugate reacts randomly with  
1139 cell surface glycoproteins. As alternative controls, HATRIC can be quenched  
1140 with glycine (negative control) or a ligand with known target receptors can be  
1141 employed as a positive control (not depicted in figure).  
1142

1143 3. The authors state: “The novel workflow renders HATRIC-LRC independent of the  
1144 PNGase F deglycosylation reaction, ultimately enabling a more robust relative quantification  
1145 of cell surface receptors than is possible with first-generation LRC”. This seems to imply that  
1146 the first-generation LRC (assume TRICEPS-LRC) could not be performed without PNGaseF.  
1147 If TRICEPS-peptide capture was performed (as in the authors previous work), then I would  
1148 agree. However, couldn't TRICEPS-LRC be performed with a protein capture, as described  
1149 for HATRIC, which would allow bead-based digestion as well?  
1150

1151 • It is in theory conceivable to conduct a protein-level capture with TRICEPS-  
1152 LRC, but as TRICEPS-LRC is based on biotin-streptavidin affinity purification.  
1153 Tryptic digestion on streptavidin beads will lead to major contamination with  
1154 streptavidin peptides and will lead to ion suppression during MS  
1155 measurements. These limitations are overcome with click chemistry-based  
1156 affinity enrichment in HATRIC-LRC.  
1157

1158 4. Conceptual flow of Figure 1b needs improvement. In the text, the description of steps  
1159 follows from (1) periodate oxidation to (2) addition of HATRIC-LRC, but in Fig 1b, the  
1160 periodate step is not explicit until the second box, which is after HATRIC-LRC/arrow graphic.

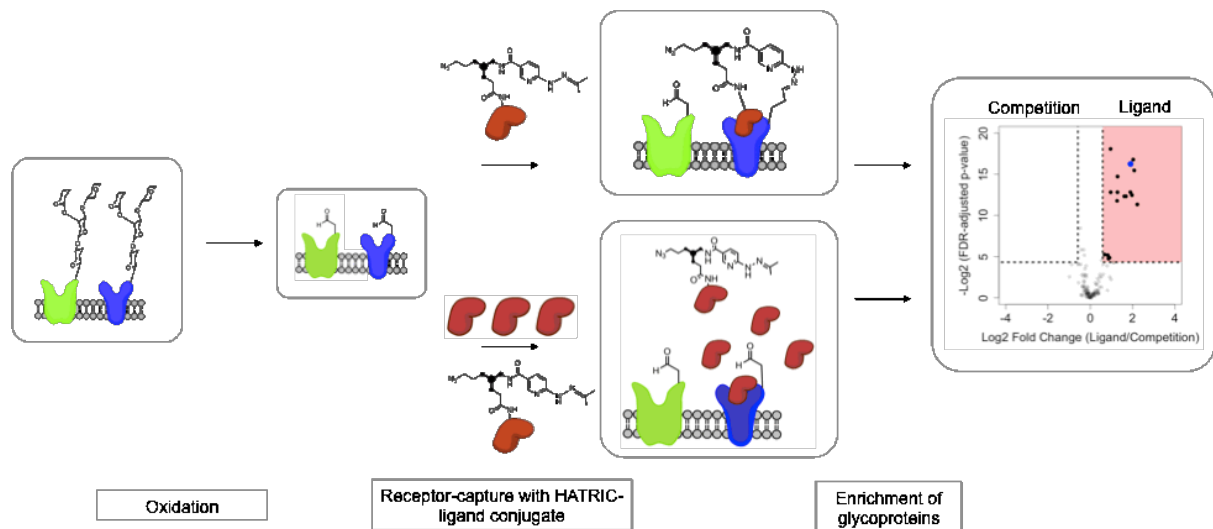
1161 The authors should illustrate the periodate oxidation step and resulting modifications  
1162 explicitly, before addition of HATRIC-LRC?

1163

1164 • Thank you for this remark, the reviewer is completely right. The oxidation is a  
1165 separate step that needs to be completed prior to adding HATRIC. We added  
1166 the oxidation step as a separate step to the figure now and hope it makes the  
1167 methodology easier to understand.

1168 • Changes to the manuscript:

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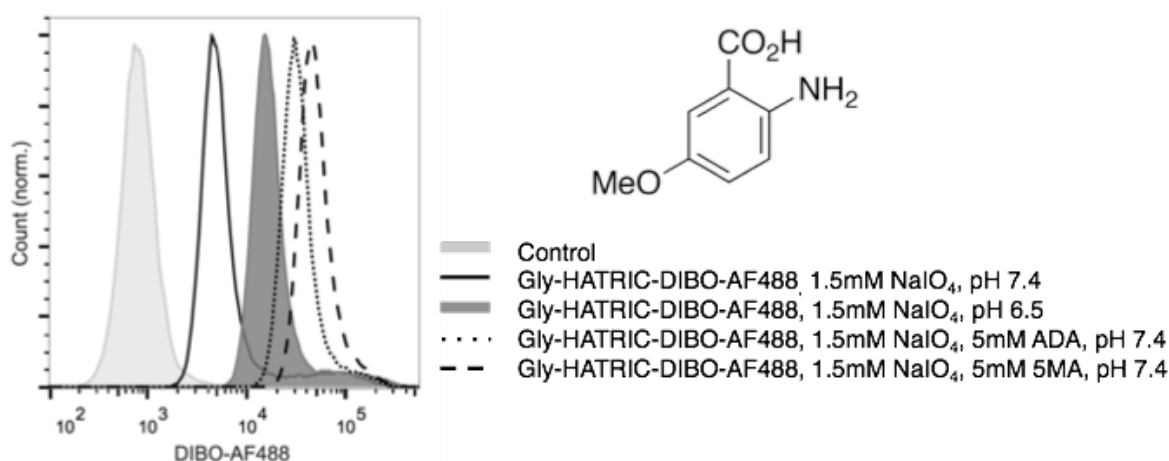
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1172 **PbP Figure 16 / Figure 1B** | Workflow of HATRIC-LRC for identification of target receptors  
1173 of ligands on live cells. First live cells are mildly oxidized with 1.5mM NaIO<sub>4</sub>. HATRIC,  
1174 conjugated to the ligand of interest, is added to the oxidized cells. The ligand selectively  
1175 directs HATRIC to its glycoprotein target receptor where HATRIC reacts to generate azide-  
1176 tagged cell-surface glycoproteins catalyzed by 5-MA. In order to identify target receptors of  
1177 orphan ligands, a dual track experimental setup is employed. In the control, the HATRIC-  
1178 conjugated ligand is applied to the cells in the presence of an excess unmodified ligand.  
1179 Alternatively, HATRIC can be quenched with glycine for a negative control or a ligand with  
1180 known target receptors can be employed as a positive control (not depicted in figure). After  
1181 lysis and affinity purification of azide-tagged proteins with unbound proteins removed by  
1182 harsh washing, peptides are proteolyzed with trypsin. Peptides are identified with high-  
1183 accuracy mass spectrometry in a data-dependent acquisition mode followed by quantitative  
1184 comparison of peptide fractions from experiment and control to reveal specific enrichment of  
1185 candidate cell surface receptors. Target receptors are defined as proteins that have a fold  
1186 change of greater than 1.5 compared to the control as well as an FDR-adjusted p-value  
1187 equal to or smaller than 0.05, corresponding to a target receptor window in the volcano plot  
1188 that is framed by dotted lines and highlighted in red.

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5. The authors could consider integration the chemical structure of the catalyst 5-methoxyanthranilic acid (Fig 1c) into Fig 1d, perhaps as a mini-graphic next to the dashed trace, or alternatively, into the supplement.

- Thank you for noticing, this was adapted accordingly.



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**PbP Figure 9 / Figure 1C** | Flow cytometry traces of U-2932 cells incubated with HATRIC conjugated to dibenzocyclooctyne-Alexa Fluor 488 (DIBO-AF488) at pH 6.5 or pH 7.4 in the presence or absence of organocatalyst 5-methoxyanthranilic acid (5-MA) (Structure shown, Mw = 167.16 g/mol) or 2-amino-4,5-dimethoxy benzoic acid (ADA). HATRIC was quenched with glycine (Gly-) to avoid potential reaction of HATRIC's NHS-ester with aminogroups at the cell surface. Shift to the right indicates more efficient labeling with HATRIC-DIBO-AF488.

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6. In volcano plots for Fig 2, since there are a limited number of significant candidates, the authors should consider labeling all points with gene symbols/arrows, as needed.

- Thank you for this suggestion, we updated Fig. 2A and Fig. 2C accordingly and it makes the plots easier to interpret. However, in Fig. 2E, we added only a number of gene names as the plot is comparably crowded.

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7. For the IAV experiment, what was the rationale for choosing insulin as a control instead of quenched HATRIC? I assume this was a positive control? If so, this should be explained more explicitly. Given the authors employ several options for controls, a few sentences clarifying the practical selection of controls could be helpful, especially regarding the above two options. For instance, if the positive control and experimental condition share a receptor, then the ratio would be 1:1 and eliminated from consideration.

- This is a valid and appreciated argument raised from the reviewer and we agree with the reviewer that on the first glance, the choice of this ligand

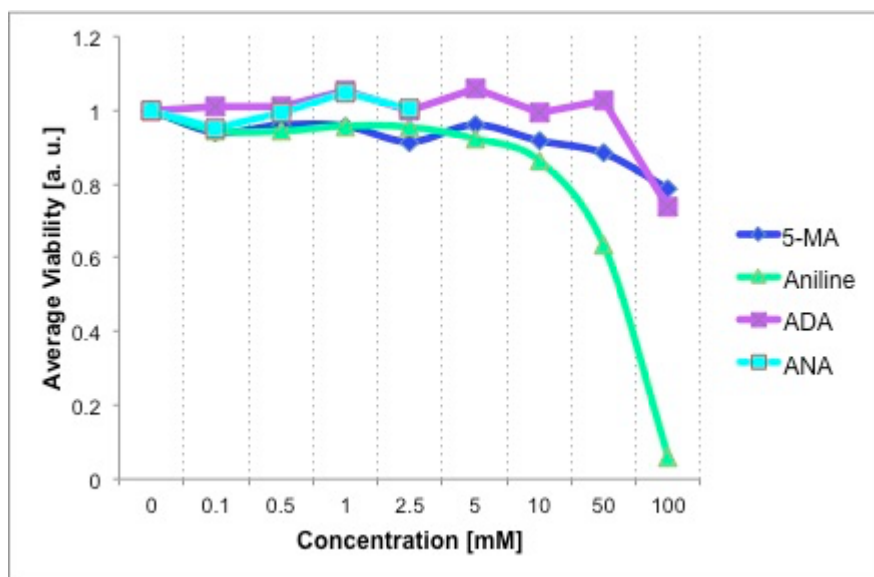
1221 appears random. However, we would like to politely point out, that we  
1222 deliberately chose insulin as a control ligand in the virus-receptor capture  
1223 experiment. Quite frankly, this was one of the first experiments where we  
1224 successfully conducted HATRIC-LRC and we didn't know about the  
1225 alternative control experiments. However, in contrast to the other experiments  
1226 reported in the paper, we didn't know which receptors to expect for influenza.  
1227 Given the rather long protocol and the risk of bias in the result due to  
1228 differential sample processing, we wanted to use a ligand with known  
1229 receptor specificity that would allow us to come to a distinct decision if the  
1230 experiment was successful and if the results qualify for follow-on experiments.  
1231 However, we do agree with the reviewer that the best experimental setup is to  
1232 have three samples tested in parallel: A ligand with known specificity (positive  
1233 control), the virus (the sample) as well as competition with unmodified virus or  
1234 quenched virus (negative control). For future experiments, this setup might  
1235 lead to different scoring of candidates and can provide valuable insights.

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1237 8. In Figure 2f, what is an infection score? If it has units, it should be defined in the  
1238 legend.

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1240 • The percentage of cells that are positive for IAV gene expression  
1241 (nucleoprotein, NP) was calculated. The average value of infection (%) in the  
1242 non-targeting siRNA-treated cells is normalised as an infection score of 1.0.

1243  
1244 9. Include units of concentration on the x-axis in Supplementary Fig 1.

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1246 • Thanks for noticing, we updated the entire figure with additional data and also  
1247 updated the x-axis accordingly.



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**PbP Figure 8 / Supplementary Figure 1** | Cytotoxicity of aniline and aniline-derived organocatalysts on MDA-MB 231. MDA-MB 231 cells (20.000 cells/well in a 96-well plate) were treated with the indicated concentrations of catalyst in DMEM (pH adjusted to 7.4, 1% Pen/Strep) for 1.5h at 37°C. Supernatant was replaced by 100ul DMEM with 10% alamarBlue™ reagent (ThermoScientific) and incubated for 5h at 37°C in the dark. Assay was read out by a fluoreader (Ex: 545nm, Em: 590nm, automatic gain).

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10. In the Tables, the authors should check their gene names for accuracy. For instance, in Table S1, the entries P09110 and O15427, the genes listed do not match the UniProt annotated genes.

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- Thank you for noticing, this was rectified.

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## References for the point-by-point response

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## **Reviewers' Comments:**

### **Reviewer #1 (Remarks to the Author):**

The authors have done a very thorough job of addressing the reviewer comments and the additional details added will greatly help others in the field working in this area.

Thanks.

### **Reviewer #2 (Remarks to the Author):**

The authors thoroughly responded to the previous comments. All raised concerns have been addressed experimentally or in the discussion to full satisfaction and I recommend accepting the manuscript for publication. Clearly this study is a major advancement in the field of receptor identification.

Reviewer # 3 could not comment on this revision. We asked Reviewer #2, who has the similar expertise coverage as Reviewer #3, to comment whether (s)he thinks Reviewer #3 previous concerns have been successfully addressed. Please refer the report in the attached PDF file.

**Reviewer #2 Comments on Reviewer #3's Suggestions:**

To the authors:

Almost all points raised have been addressed. A short discussion on the EGF and folate receptor candidates that were found, could be added. Otherwise it seems a fine study and a valuable contribution to the receptor identification field.

Main point 1:

The discussion of new EGF receptor candidates could not be found. The authors refer the reviewer to p. 10 of the point by point response, but no discussion of the new candidates is provided there.

Similarly the discussion of new folate candidate receptors could not be found.

Regarding the discussion of known IAV receptors, this was adequately addressed by the authors.

Main point 2:

Addressed by the authors.

Main point 3:

Fully addressed by the authors.

Minor points:

All addressed and/or explained sufficiently by the authors

**To the authors:**

**Almost all points raised have been addressed. A short discussion on the EGF and folate receptor candidates that were found, could be added. Otherwise it seems a fine study and a valuable contribution to the receptor identification field.**

**Main point 1:**

**The discussion of new EGF receptor candidates could not be found. The authors refer the reviewer to p. 10 of the point by point response, but no discussion of the new candidates is provided there. Similarly, the discussion of new folate candidate receptors could not be found.**

**Regarding the discussion of known IAV receptors, this was adequately addressed by the authors.**

Response: On p. 10 of the point-by-point response we wrote the text below and forgot to mention our more extensive discussion on p. 16 and following pages. We copied these sections and additional relevant changes to the manuscript below.

- [...], we correctly identified EGF significantly enriched and identified five other EGF receptor candidates that have not been described before (**Supplementary Table 3**), namely monocarboxylate transporter 4 (SLC16A3), filamin-A (FLNA), peroxisomal 3-ketoacyl-CoA thiolase (ACAA1), transmembrane emp24 domain-containing protein 7 (TMED7) and sarcoplasmic/endoplasmic reticulum calcium ATPase 1 (AT2A1) (**Supplementary Table 3**). Reports of direct interactions between these proteins and EGF are not available, but it was shown before that SLC16A3 co-locates with CD147 in breast cancer cells (Gallagher et al. 2007) , which in turn is associated with EGFR in similar lipid domains (Vial and McKeown-Longo 2012) suggesting that SLC16A3 resides in the neighborhood of EGFR at the cell surface (Dai et al. 2013) . [...]
- HATRIC-LRC is a screening technology, which enables the identification of receptor candidates. In certain case scenarios, identified candidates may not be direct interaction partners of the ligand as you pointed out. Apart from the main receptor, other candidates identified could be “next door neighbors”, potentially influencing receptor activity, which were captured due to proximity to the main receptor. We are following up on this exciting possibility. Given the experimental setup, the candidates identified from HATRIC-LRC experiments can generally be the result of four reasons: (1) there is a direct interaction of the ligand with the target receptor; (2) the protein is in close proximity of the target receptor (“neighborhood protein”); (3) the protein gets upregulated in response to treatment with the ligand and gets overrepresented in the background binding of HATRIC (e. g. we use approximately 8 times more EGF than

is used for stimulation experiments) or (4) the identified candidate is a false positive. Our experiments do not allow us to delineate right away which type of interaction was observed, but the validation experiments and the cited data clearly underline the relevance of the identified proteins. The analysis pipeline was optimized to allow for identification and ranking of receptor candidates. However, the resulting data have to be analyzed carefully and more stringent receptor spaces can be defined based on the identification of positive control receptors or the ligand (e.g. EGF). Identified candidates need validation in tailor-made follow-up experiments, such as siRNA-based approaches. These approaches cannot be generalized and for every LRC application the type of follow-up experiment will depend on the type of ligand, the biological context, and the tools available for the system under study. However, we would also like to point out that the biological relevance of the neighboring proteins is not to be underestimated either. Proteins that are in close proximity of the target receptor might interfere with the activity of the actual target and are therefore relevant for future studies of the lateral cell surface interactome. HATRIC-LRC could potentially also be used to generate candidates for such studies - another exciting application of HATRIC-LRC for life science research.

**Changes to the manuscript:**

[...] We incubated the folate-HATRIC conjugate with 20 million HeLa Kyoto cells at pH 7.4. In the control, we added six-fold excess of unmodified folate. We detected interactions with FOLR1 and with a small set of further receptor candidates (**Fig. 2c, d; Supplementary Table 7**). None of these receptors were previously described to interact directly with folate. At the same time, we didn't identify any other known folate receptors. We speculate that other folate receptors (e. g. FOLR2) were not identified as their affinity towards folate is lower than the affinity of FOLR1 or because they are not expressed in HeLa Kyoto cells<sup>19</sup>. Related approaches studied methotrexate-based labeling of FOLR1, but didn't investigate if the compound also binds to other proteins<sup>18</sup>.

[...] Applying this filter prior to statistical analysis, we correctly identified EGF significantly enriched and identified five other EGF receptor candidates that have not been described before (Supplementary Table 3-4), namely monocarboxylate transporter 4 (SLC16A3), filamin-A (FLNA), peroxisomal 3-ketoacyl-CoA thiolase (ACAA1), transmembrane emp24 domain-containing protein 7 (TMED7) and sarcoplasmic/endoplasmic reticulum calcium ATPase 1 (AT2A1) (Supplementary Table 3-4). Reports of direct interactions between these proteins and EGF are not available, but it was shown before that SLC16A3 co-locates with CD147 in breast cancer cells (Gallagher et al. 2007) , which in turn is associated with EGFR in similar lipid

domains (Vial and McKeown-Longo 2012) suggesting that SLC16A3 resides in the neighbourhood of EGFR at the cell surface (Dai et al. 2013).

**Discussion for both sections added to the manuscript:**

[...] Given the experimental setup, the candidates identified from HATRIC-LRC experiments can generally be the result of four scenarios (1) there is a direct interaction of the ligand with the target receptor; (2) the protein is in close proximity of the target receptor ("neighbourhood protein"); (3) the protein gets upregulated in response to treatment with the ligand and gets overrepresented in the background binding of HATRIC (e. g. we use approximately 8 times more EGF than is used for stimulation experiments) or (4) the identified candidate is a false positive. A single HATRIC-LRC experiment does not allow us to delineate which type of interaction was observed, but the validation experiments and the cited data clearly underline the biological relevance of the identified proteins. The analysis pipeline was optimized to allow for the identification and ranking of receptor candidates. However, the resulting data have to be analyzed carefully and more stringent receptor spaces can be defined based on the identification of positive control receptors or the ligand (e.g. EGF). Identified candidates need validation in tailor-made follow-up experiments, such as siRNA-based approaches. [...]

Main point 2:

Addressed by the authors.

Main point 3:

Fully addressed by the authors.

Minor points:

All addressed and/or explained sufficiently by the authors